

Kite-flying and unattributable lobby briefing are how Conservative education policy is made these days. As election fever waxes and wanes, the hints come thick and fast that something altogether outrageous and exciting is going to appear in the Tory manifesto. The roll of drums, the twang of chiffron giving a glimpse of the shockingly naked truth about to be revealed – the aim is obviously to keep us all on the edge of our seats.

However, as with a striptease, we all know pretty much what it's going to look like. It will be some sort of move to detach schools from the local education authority system, to fund them on a unit cost "per capita" basis, and thus "set them free". And before those responsible for drawing up a scheme go too hard on the details, I would like to ask a few questions.

First, are the schools to have any choice about whether or not to go over to this new system? Even with the new-style governing bodies, shorn of most of their political nominees, it is perfectly possible that not all of them will be absolutely sure of the advantages of this sudden liberation. So I imagine – and this is what has already been hinted at – that schools will be given the choice.

They will want to look at the terms rather closely. On what will the "per capita" grant be based? Will it be based on the current average unit costs for the whole country? This could have a somewhat embarrassing result. Schools in low-spending (and overwhelmingly Tory) local education authorities would see the immediate financial advantages of self-liberation. Not only would any mass transfer by schools in this category immediately jack up education spending, but it would be somewhat awkward politically.

Schools in the high-spending Labour education authorities, on the other hand, would probably be very hesitant about opting for a lower level of spending. Even those that are currently fed up to the back teeth with the demands and initiatives and political interference of their municipal socialist masters are hardly going to queue up to ask for cuts.

Following this logic, the Government – if it wants any takers from the Labour author-



ANNE SOFER

ities, which are its chief targets – will have to offer a "unit cost" based on the schools' own local education authority spending. And here lies another embarrassment, for this – in many cases – is a level denounced by the Government itself as ludicrously high and wasteful.

Looking ahead a few years, a further interesting conundrum arises. Some of these extravagant authorities are deeply in debt. They have pawned their park benches, library books, town halls and mayoral regalia. It is confidently predicted by the pundits that they will crash to earth with a hideous jarring of limbs in a couple of years' time. Spending – as in New York in 1978 – will be slashed.

"Outrage! Unfair!", all the newly liberated unit-cost-funded schools will cry. Why should we suffer this disruption because the authorities we so thankfully escaped two years ago are utter incompetents? So will these schools, at that stage, be cushioned – and become the most generously funded schools in the country?

More questions arise about the powers these schools will have. They will, one gathers from the pamphlets issuing from various right-wing think-tanks, be established as independent trusts. As such they will have control over their own curriculum (fine), discipline (good), budget (excellent), hiring and firing of staff (interesting –

## A Right raw deal

'Back to selection and the 11-plus: freedom of choice for some parents, but not for others'

though the unions won't like it), premises, admissions...

Hang on a minute. Both those two have wider implications. The premises of many schools, currently the property of the local education authority, are often used for a number of other functions – chiefly youth clubs and adult education in the evening. Where these functions are currently under the management of the school (that is, the village college or community school model), how will that be budgeted for and what obligation will the school have to keep it going?

Even more complicated will be the more common situation where these functions are managed by other branches of the local education authority. Will they stop? Or have to transfer elsewhere? Or will the local education authority have to rent back its own premises? I don't see any popularity coming the Government's way with any of these options.

Control of admissions is potentially the most explosive issue. In the newspaper leaks I have seen, it has been slipped in unobtrusively as if it were one of the more minor functions of an educational institution – almost a mere clerical job. The No Turning Back group of Conservative MPs were more blatant. In their pamphlet *Save Our Schools*, they suggest: "It will be up to the schools themselves to determine their acceptance

policies, and to decide which children wish to admit. There will undoubtedly be different standards, as various schools choose a different emphasis". In other words, back to selection and the 11-plus: freedom of choice for some parents, but not for others. The "best" schools will be best to seek out the "best" pupils.

The tragedy of all this is that the Right has taken a brilliant and radical Alliance and corrupted it. The Cambridge experiment has been twisted by its scheme for privatizing schools and reducing selection. In Cambridge, schools are given local management of budgets and organization. As "village colleges" (that is, 11-16 schools with community education responsibilities), they are contract with their communities to provide adult education for the area; over and over that they have control of the letting of premises.

They are moving towards a system of "unit cost funding" – at a level determined by Whitehall but by the locally elected education committee. They are demanding considerable autonomy – but in return for accountability to all the parents, adults in their respective areas, merely those they pick and choose.

This is the sort of decentralization that encourages innovation and initiative, but widens inequalities. But the idea of inequality is something that both the radical Right and one whit.

### NEXT WEEK

State of the unions  
James Meikle previews this Easter teacher union conferences  
Merge or die?  
Peter Smith of AMMA argues that there are more workable alternatives than teacher union amalgamation meeting the post-Burnham crisis  
Structural failure  
Kenneth Baker's incentive proposals fall down when they are applied to real school  
Iron ladies  
Kenneth Minogue on the Tories  
female vote  
Extra – History

# Educational Supplement

WEDNESDAY APRIL 10 1987 NUMBER 3683

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TES/Mori poll bitter blow to unions

## Parents back Baker's pay settlement

by Barry Huggill

Only a third of parents believe that teachers are underpaid, according to a specially commissioned poll conducted for *The TES* by MORI. And more than half (54 per cent) consider it wrong that the teacher unions are taking strike action in protest at Mr Kenneth Baker's decision to replace the Burnham Committee, the pay negotiating body, with an advisory committee answerable solely to the Secretary of State.

The poll findings will come as a bitter blow to the two largest unions, the National Union of Teachers and the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers, whose members are currently taking selective strike action in protest at the scrapping of Burnham.

It will almost certainly lead to demands from delegates at the unions' annual conferences, to be held over Easter, for a drastic rethink of campaign strategy.

Most disturbing for the unions is the poll finding that 54 per cent of those questioned do not believe that teachers are underpaid.

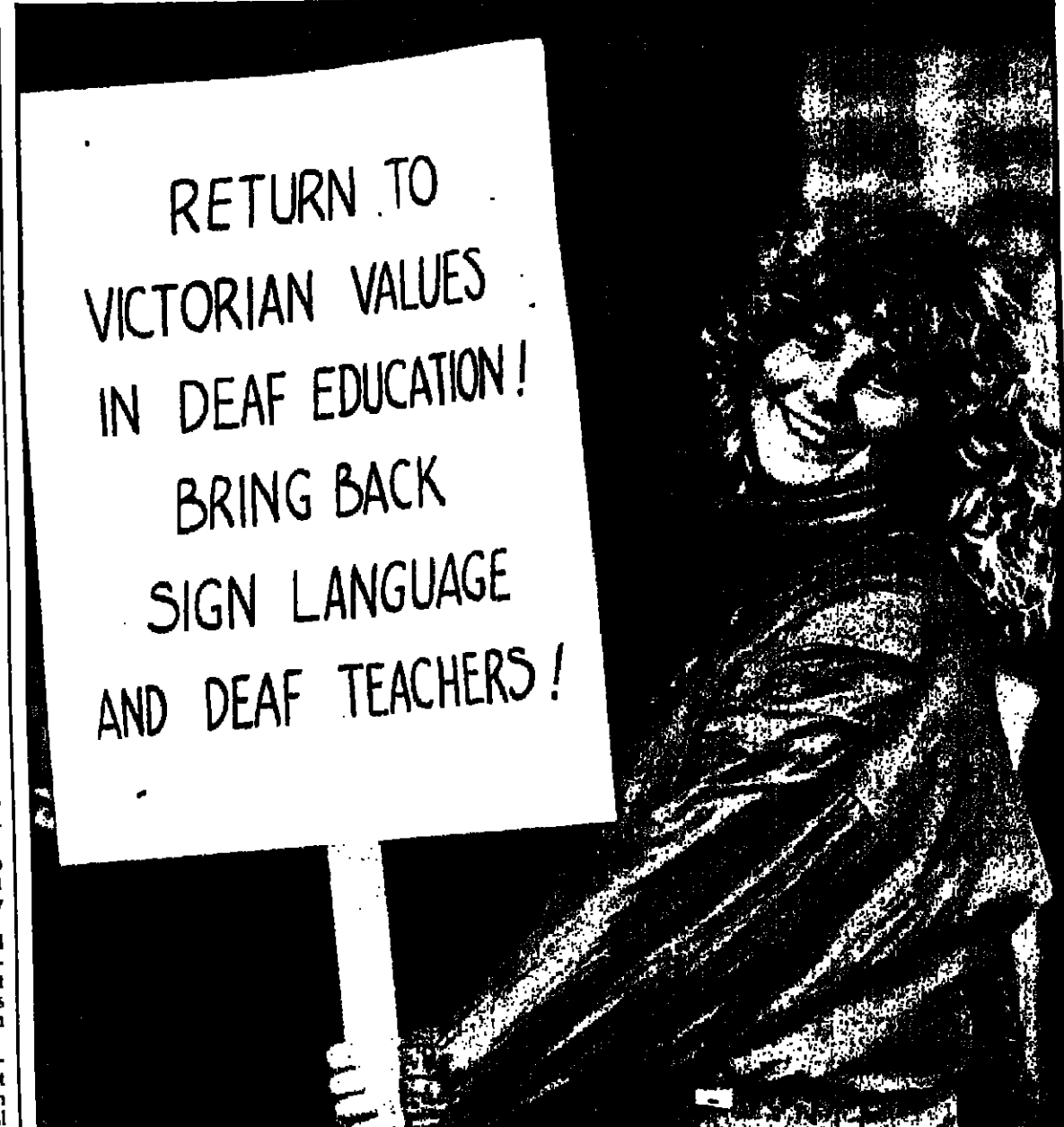
Throughout the three-year pay dispute, brought to an end by Mr Baker's decision to impose a settlement, the unions claimed to have parents behind them. They were boosted by pledges of support from the National Confederation of Parent-Teacher Associations, the largest "parent" organization, which deplored the damage caused by the constant disruption but sympathized with teachers' pay demands.

The poll shows that the unions no longer have parental support and it must raise questions as to whether they ever had it in the first place.

The poll will be widely interpreted as a vindication of Mr Baker's high-risk strategy of imposing a settlement and will be seen as evidence that he is winning the propaganda battle with the unions.

It will also be used by the traditionally moderate unions, the Assistant Masters and Mistresses Association and the non-striking Professional Association of Teachers, to justify their "softly, softly" policies.

Poll details, page 5



Sign of the times: a loud and clear message to the Department of Education and Science from Karen Metcalfe, a teacher supporting the National Union of the Deaf, which is protesting at what they say is an effective ban on deaf teachers and sign language in schools. Full story, page 8.

### NOTICEBOARD

#### PEOPLE...

Sir John Burgh, director-general of the British Council, will succeed Lord Oxborough as President of Trinity College Oxford in September. Mr Richard Francis, managing director of BBC radio, will succeed Sir John at the British Council in July.  
Mr Geoffrey Rees, head of Birmingham school, will be head of Lydbridge community college from Easter. Mr Kenneth Barker, deputy head at Estover school, Plymouth, to succeed Mr Rees as head of Birmingham school.  
Mr Roy Cooke, deputy head of Great Gurney school, Birmingham, and deputy director of the Centre for the Study of Comprehensive Schools from 1985/6, to be head of St Helen's school, Barnsley.  
Mr Brian Bennett, head of art at Berkhamstead school, Hertfordshire, to be president of the Royal Institute of Oil Painters.

#### CONFERENCES...

April 21-23  
*The Science of the Unknown: environment, exploration and education.* Geographical Association conference at the Royal Geographical Society, 1, Kensington Gore, London SW7 and the London School of Economics, April 22 and 23. Full programme details from the Geographical Association, 343 Fulwood Road, Sheffield S10 3BP.

April 22-23  
Educational Institute of Design, Craft and Technology conference at Trent Polytechnic, Nottingham with a CDU in education exhibition and design-related activities in primary and middle schools. Main

speakers: Peter Clarke, Norman Manners, John Westley, Richard Shearman and John Fulton. Details from Fred Wilmore, EDICT Administrator, 34 Burton Street, Merton Mowbray, Leicestershire LE13 1AF.

April 22-24  
Communication Studies Network annual conference at Sheffield City Polytechnic. Presentations on the development of images and current developments in broadcasting and publishing and workshops, displays of books and equipment. Fee £50 (£70 non-members). Details from Peter Hartley, Conference Organizer, Department of Communication Studies, Sheffield City Polytechnic, Totley Hall Lane, Sheffield S17 4AB.

April 22-24  
*Care or control – an educational dilemma.* National Association for Pastoral Care in Education West Midlands division conference at Lancaster Polytechnic. Speakers: Maura Healy, Chris Watkins, Patsy Wagner, Kevin Blackburn and Ron Best. Fee £80 with reductions for members and non-residents. Details from Beryl Starkey, Stoke Park School, Dane Road, Coventry CV2 4JW.

#### EVENTS...

April 22  
*A taste of the Arab world.* A children's holiday event at the Museum of Mankind, Burlington Gardens, London W1 for 8 to 12-year-olds. Photographs, objects, room settings and audiovisual material will illustrate the daily life of Arab people of different backgrounds. Sessions begin at 10.30 am, 12 noon and

2.30 pm. Details and bookings with the British Museum education service, 01 636 1555 ext 511.

April 28-May 1  
*Get it together:* an exhibition of new resources presented by Hertfordshire TVEI at Webb Rise, Stevenage. Topics include book, video and software publications, Prestel, business games, profiling, library services, economic awareness, equal opportunities and teaching styles. Details from Martin Flatt, TVEI Project co-ordinator, The Grange, High Street, Stevenage, Herts.

#### COURSES...

April 21-24  
*Poetry and book arts:* for teachers of all age groups who want to establish links with schools who have a school radio with a view to exchanging experiences, ideas and tapes. Please write to her at Erias high school, Erias Road, Colwyn Bay, Chwyd LL29 7SP.

April 21-25  
Newcastle's Dance City Easter school for teachers of dance, physical education and drama. Teachers include Yari Vard, Chris Burn, Christine Cabrales, Sarah DeBell and Jane Marwood. Topics include the theory and practice of contemporary ballet and jazz dance techniques and music for dance. Details from Sarah DeBell, co-ordinator, Dance City, Peel Lane, Off Walworth Road, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 4DW.

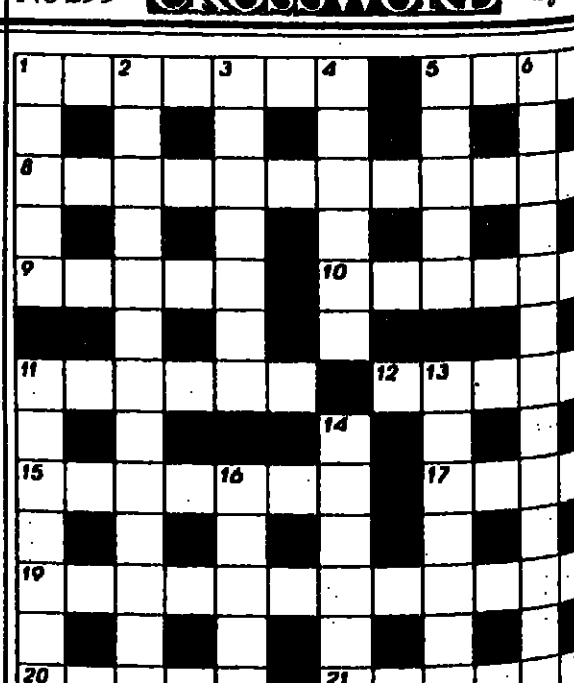
April 21-24  
*Bringing it to life – celebration and religious education* at University College of North Wales, Bangor with Frank Topping, Rabbi Hugo Gryn and the Singh children's theatre company and workshops on food, dance, creative music and art. Suitable for primary and secondary teachers of religious education. Details from the Christian Education Movement, Lancaster House, Borough Road, Isleworth, Middx TW7 5DU. Fee £72 (£78 non-members).

#### INFORMATION

*School radio*  
Mrs Jean Aldred would like to establish links with schools who have a school radio with a view to exchanging experiences, ideas and tapes. Please write to her at Erias high school, Erias Road, Colwyn Bay, Chwyd LL29 7SP.

*Photography*  
Chesham Museum is holding activity workshops for 8 to 13-year-olds on early photography, leading about two hours and including cameras, pinhole cameras and the social impact of photography in the 19th century. Details from Arma Rainsbury or Liz McBride, Chesham Museum, Gwy House, Bridge Street, Chesham.

### No 299 CROSSWORD by R



**ACROSS**  
1 Make a speech against decimal conversion (7)  
5 Nominally involved in a court case (5)  
8 It gives access to things bound to be borrowed (7, 6)  
9 Risk having a dog at home (5)  
10 Leave a catch back by the river (7)  
11 German composer involved a number in a brass composition (6)  
12 A thousand new clues might (6)  
13 At one and helpless (7)  
17 Spilled a pint, being clumsy (5)  
19 What he studied is wrong (15)  
20 Return to deposit gold sovereign (5)  
21 Group studying ruined remains (7)  
**DOWN**  
1 Held out for foreign capital (5)  
2 For which a volume might be written (5, 8)  
3 What does father make of the R.A.F.? (7)  
4 Celebrated call for help (6)  
5 Country requiring careful handling (5)  
6 One in class may accept authority (4, 9)  
7 An improvement in relations (7)  
11 Dad cheque check – or not (7)  
13 All the same, the die has been cast (7)  
14 Do not make a mistake (6)  
16 A privateer (6)  
18 A privateer (6)

## Contract loopholes to be closed

by Richard Garner and James Meikle

The Government was expected to lay the order imposing the first stage of its pay award to teachers in England and Wales before Parliament yesterday.

The order includes what were described as "significant" alterations to the contract being imposed on teachers.

A new clause has been inserted insisting that teachers should write reports on their pupils as part of their duties. A requirement that teachers should be available at school for 195 days a year has been altered to read "available for work".

The changes reflect worries that teacher unions could seize upon the new contract and use it in future disputes to work to rule.

The Government has not moved on its requirement for teachers to cover for colleagues for three days. However, the sub-clause, which said that teachers might have to step in for longer where the services of supply

teachers were not available has been altered. It now reads: "where it is not reasonably practicable for the main-tening authority to provide a supply teacher to provide cover." This is seen as increasing the responsibility of local education authorities to provide supply staff.

The Government is also publishing a discussion paper outlining how the 25,000 new incentive allowances of £500, due to be paid in October, should be distributed. Most will be paid for "outstanding classroom performance".

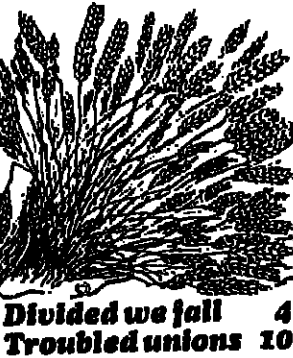
This could prove a thorny subject during consultation. There is no appraisal system and the unions are strongly opposed to "merit pay".

L.e.a.s., governors and headteachers will presumably have to allocate the awards.

The paper says these are to be awarded for positive achievements in one or more of the following categories:

### THIS WEEK

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EDUCATIONAL SUPPLEMENT  
Priory House, St John's Lane, London EC1M 4BX. Tel 01-253 3000

## Thumbs down from parents

Public opinion polls aren't everything, the politicians tell us. Yet they watch their ups and downs as closely as stockbrokers watch the market. So it is with the TES/MORI poll this week. It gives a limited snap-shot of public opinion about teachers' pay and their industrial action. Nobody—union leaders, parents' leaders, Mr Baker himself—can fail to test their own confident assertions about the attitudes of parents and the public against this new evidence.

The size of the majority against the teachers' strikes in support of their right to negotiate on pay, is a vindication of Mr Baker's political assessment—at least in the short term. From the teachers' point of view this is bad news, but it will not come as a great surprise. Even the parents' leaders, who have done their best to show solidarity with the teachers, have understood all along that teachers were not going to win over the parents by sending children home.

It could be argued that the size of the minority supporting the teachers is more remarkable than the size of the majority against them. But no amount of rationalization can make this poll good news for the teachers as they go into their Easter conferences. A guerrilla campaign through the summer would be more likely to discourage the minority than browbeat the majority.

The teachers have cultivated the idea that they are badly paid. This is at best a vague concept. What is "well-paid" or "badly-paid", is in the eye of the beholder and depends on unspoken comparisons with other jobs. Houghton thought the teachers were

badly paid. A case can be made out—and *The TES* would support it—that teachers in maintained schools have always been poorly paid, and that the recent pay increase (though a welcome step in the right direction) still leaves a lot to be desired.

But how general has this belief ever been? The poll shows that a solid majority think teachers are not underpaid. Even among the AB class—the section of the community most likely to have educational backgrounds and qualifications similar to the teachers'—only 42 per cent think teachers are hard done by, compared with 47 per cent who don't.

By making it a straight fight between himself and the teachers' unions, Mr Baker has played his political trump. The teachers have a lot of leeway to make up if they are to win this battle for public support. And if they can only prosper by taking action which further antagonizes the public, they are on a hiding to nothing.

Mr Baker is now stating as a fact that teachers' pay rates are attractive and offer "good" salary prospects, and he now has some excellent figures for recruitment to teacher training which he is using to back up his claim. Admittedly he is assuming that news travels very fast, but applications for entry to BED, PGCE and Cert Ed courses are now running 12 per cent up on 1986. And in shortage subjects like maths and CDT, the increase is much higher (page 5). The growth of numbers in CDT is particularly gratifying.

The Teaching As A Career (TASC) programme is wholly to be welcomed and the first response to the

press advertisements which have been appearing in recent weeks has been very encouraging. The comparisons with 1986 are, of course, flattering because the 1986 recruitment was as dramatically below target as this year looks like being above. All the extra recruiting so far recorded (or almost all) was during the lull before the NUT and NAS/UWT resumed their programme of strikes.

Also in the news this week, the Royal College of Nursing has been using the teachers' 16.8 per cent pay award as leverage for a rise for nurses. Mr Trevor Clay, the general secretary of the RCN, is not above using what the teachers won by direct action to bolster the claims of his own members who have abstained strikes. Whatever ambivalence the public feels about teachers, the nurses enjoy a large measure of public support, and every time the TV screens show pictures of wards shut down for lack of nursing staff, it ought to strengthen Mr Clay's hand.

The archaic methods of selecting and training nurses probably have a good deal to do with the recruiting figures, quite apart from the pay. The sooner Mr Norman Fowler grasps this nettle—and invokes the co-operation which the polys would be only too delighted to give—the better. But who is going to volunteer for jobs like nursing in Mrs Thatcher's Britain? Only someone perverse enough to stand out against the tide and put the rewards of helping other people ahead of self-interest, money-making and getting on. It will take more than a few percentage points on the pay package to restore nurses' morale.

## COMMENT

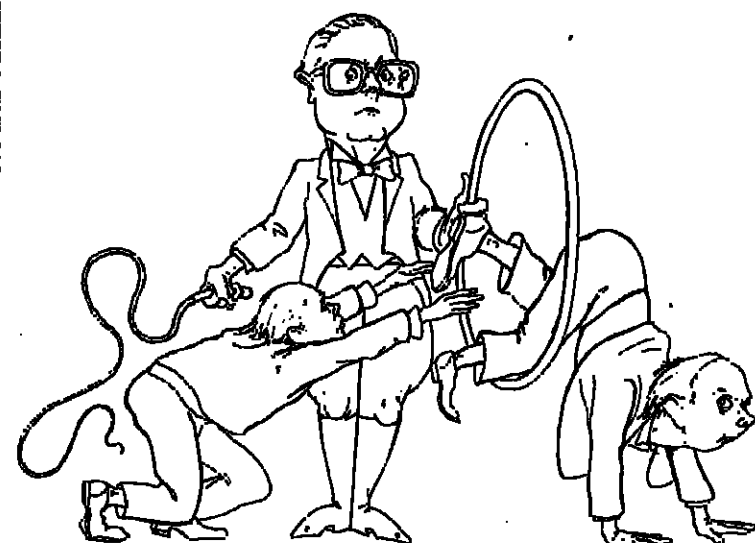
### Tip-top timetables

Mr Baker has now spelled out in a bit more detail his plans for a national core curriculum (page 3). Unfortunately, for every question he answers he raises two more. He seems to have an amazing faith in what Parliament can do which is either naïve or a way of side-stepping snags.

Mr Baker senses that there is a political consensus at Westminster for a new deal which would require all pupils everywhere to follow the same core courses. But his words perfectly exemplify his adopted naïveté: "the Government intends to legislate early in the next Parliament to establish a national curriculum brought about by the co-operative efforts of the education service, the providers and the customers [our italics]. My aim is that when the Secretary of State sets out the national curricula, he will not be imposing his will but giving effect to a broad national consensus". Unfortunately, although our constitution has to pretend that Parliament is all-powerful, no minister can legislate "co-operation". This is a hollow statement. Given the complex and contentious relationships between the Secretary of State and his partners, it has become increasingly unrealistic to expect to avoid the linkage of one area of potential dispute from another.

The same naïveté shone out at the very beginning of Mr Baker's statement. "Pupils," he said, "are entitled to a curriculum that draws upon individual talents and which challenges the child. This can be guaranteed only if it is required and enforceable by law [our italics]."

Unfortunately this is grandiloquent but meaningless. No matter how hard Mr Baker or Parliament try they can no more "guarantee" a good curriculum than fly. Nor can they enforce it by law. Does he intend to give the right of enforcement to parents by civil action? Or are we going to see the Secretary of State trying to enforce the impossible guarantee by intervening in every classroom at every hour of the day? Of course, the truth is that Mr Baker



is neither as naïve nor as ambitious as he pretends. What will emerge in practice will simply be a large bureaucratic system enforcing a bit more uniformity on 20,000-odd primary schools and 5,000 secondary schools (already heavily controlled through the examination system). It will be neither as oppressive as Mr Baker's words might suggest, nor yet will it live up to his hopes.

It's all about teaching: there is nothing about learning. It treats the curriculum as if it were simply a set of subjects on the timetable. His "very strong working groups" can write programmes to turn the Baker timetable into a set of study plans. But in reality the curriculum doesn't only consist of what the teachers bring to the class, it also turns on what the class brings to the teacher. The uniform curriculum prescribed from on high by what Mr Baker laughingly calls "the best minds in the country" will still mean something different in every classroom in the land.

Mr Baker is clear that he does not want the whole timetable to be dictated nationally, and that he recognizes the danger that his benchmarks at 7, 11 and 14 could become basic minima to which teachers gear their training. He sees the danger, says it will be avoided, but gives no indication how, beyond saying that the teachers should allow for variations in ability.

### Optimism from IT

Education is at the centre of the view of the future set out by the Long-Term Perspectives Group of the Information Technology Economic Development Committee, whose report *IT Futures*... *IT can work* was published yesterday (page 13). It is subtitled an "optimistic view", which is encouraging, but it isn't clear how much substance is left when the froth of IT-speak is blown off.

It is a strange mixture of prescription and prophecy. Presumably the optimism is contingent upon its prescriptions being adopted in the future. These include much more education and training all round.

They also want to see employers providing training for payment in all manner of skills and occupations—and then the government funding young people to buy the training of their choice. They expressly reject the economic theory that employers should only train for their own projected needs.

The authors' special interest in Information Technology does not predispose them towards the Government's policy of switching the balance of higher education towards science and technology at the expense of the humanities.

"In our view of the future, Britain may have to capitalize upon originality, artistic creativity, design flair and professional expertise as much as our technical prowess. We may have to blend art and science as in television broadcasting. We must compete but let us not ignore our areas of competitive strength."

### no comment

"HM Prison and Youth Custody Centre, Drake Hall, Ecclestone, Nr. Stafford. Lecturer Grade I in Access Education and Open Learning." From: Staffordshire County Council education department's internal vacancy list.

## Second opinion

### The outsiders mustn't job-spec

The Manpower Services Commission is poised to use its contract enforcement powers to ensure that the Youth Training Scheme while it should be a training scheme, it should not be a job-spec.

To arrive at a decision, the MSC has set up "lead bodies" in industry to produce the rapidly changing schemes for YTS. And these bodies have left to go their own way.

A module, for example, for two or three hours of work, may be a framework there is an infinite variety of work coherence and transfer.

There is also the industry's "lead bodies" chosen. Some 120 lead bodies, representing organizations and 85 trade councils exist. These are the industrial training bodies of which have a command of which have had become a "lead body".

The YTS is expected to include a social security system to allow more young people to receive educational maintenance awards. At present, maintenance awards are taken into account when assessing the supplementary and housing benefit and the family credit paid out to low-income families. From April 1988 no account will be taken of maintenance awards when assessing income-related benefits.

Seventeen schools in Inner London were forced to close last Thursday morning because of walk-outs sparked off by the authority's redeployment scheme. Members of the National Union of Teachers left schools to lobby County Hall, despite orders from the national union for a representative protest rather than a strike.

Dixons, the electrical retail chain, is providing £1 million to set up the second of the 20 City Technology Colleges proposed by the Government for 11-18-year-olds with an aptitude in science and technology. Suitable premises are sought in the Doncaster-Rotherham area of Yorkshire.

Parents give their children little help with homework, not because of lack of time, but because they do not know the answers or fear they are out of date, according to a Gallup poll.

The survey of 600 parents carried out for the publisher, Charles Letts, found that:

- 68 per cent of parents aren't asked for help with their children's homework.
- 48 per cent would like to help their children more, but felt unable to.
- 70 per cent said they lacked knowledge or ability in certain subjects.
- Only 17 per cent could correctly answer a simple maths question taken from a textbook for 11-year-olds.

Specialist teachers and advisers are needed to improve opportunities for travellers' children, the National Union of Teachers said this week. The families encountered discrimination and prejudice which paralleled the racism experienced by black communities. Local authorities should provide official status, free from harassment, where children could benefit from school. Separate teaching provision, to reinforce prejudice.

Mick Farley is senior adviser for further and higher education in the Merseyside region. He is a secondment to the Merseyside quality adviser for the region.

## IN BRIEF

### Union warns of kangaroo court

Teachers have been advised not to attend annual parents' meetings at schools in case they turn into "kangaroo courts". The first meetings will be held next term, as required by the 1986 Education Act. The Government has suggested that some members of staff and qualifications, without a few senior pupils could be invited. But the Assistant Masters and Mistresses Association is worried about advice which suggests how criticisms of individuals may be handled, if the person concerned is present.

### Bugging claim

Mr Tony Miller, an executive member of the National Union of Teachers from Birmingham, claims his telephone has been tapped. He plans to lodge a complaint with the Home Office after hearing a short recording of a telephone interview he did with the local BBC Radio station being played back down the line. Mr Miller, after meetings with BBC representatives, is convinced that technical problems were not responsible.

### Top training call

Twelve regional centres to coordinate management training for heads are called for by the National Association of Head Teachers in a discussion paper today. The association, representing 27,500 heads and deputies, also calls on the Government to set up a professional body to supervise a national system of management development for senior teachers.

### Benefit reform

The Government is set to reform the social security system to allow more young people to receive educational maintenance awards. At present, maintenance awards are taken into account when assessing the supplementary and housing benefit and the family credit paid out to low-income families. From April 1988 no account will be taken of maintenance awards when assessing income-related benefits.

### Strike closures

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## NEWS

Barry Hugill reports on the surprise announcement of legislation for a national curriculum

## Local authorities irate at timing of Baker statement

Local authority leaders are angry at the timing of Mr Kenneth Baker's announcement on legislation to introduce a national core curriculum.

The Secretary of State surprised a meeting of the Common Select Committee on Education by unveiling his plan. There had been no warning of Tuesday's statement and MPs were uncertain whether to protest at Mr Baker's flouting of Parliamentary tradition—major announcements are supposedly made to the House, not to select committees—or he flattered them by telling them first. They succumbed to flattery.

Mr Baker promised legislation in the next Parliament to ensure all children receive a grounding in maths and English, science, a foreign language, history, geography and technology. Such a curriculum could be guaranteed only if "required and enforceable by law", he said.

The efficacy of the national curriculum would be measured by tests, for pupils aged seven, 11 and 14, to be based on attainment targets that "would allow for variations in ability".

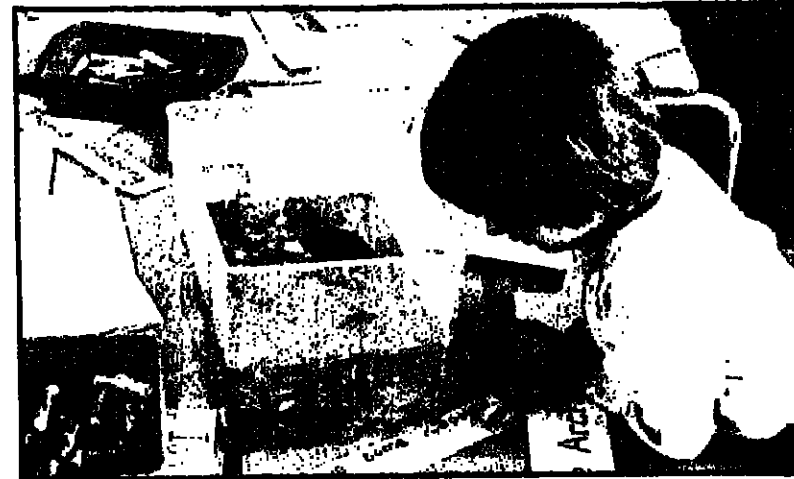
The tests would be set and marked by teachers, but moderated externally.

Mr Baker denied his plan would lead to a narrower curriculum. Subjects outside the core would still be taught, and he stressed that the "benchmark" tests were not exams pupils would pass or fail but a way of "drawing out" what they knew.

Mr Baker did not intend to impose a national curriculum, and its content must be largely determined by professional educators—primarily teachers. Representatives of local authority associations were "upset" that he had made his announcement before considering their proposal for a national advisory body on the curriculum—along the lines of that for public sector higher education.

"It is difficult to reconcile Mr Baker's eagerness to pass a law with his stated desire to obtain a national consensus," said one official.

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The reality is that, while most educationists favour a national curriculum, there is no consensus on what, say, should constitute a core history curriculum.

The unions already reject "benchmark" testing and will stress the need for additional resources if the plans were to be implemented. The National Union of Teachers has long held that a national curriculum already exists—and the real problem is lack of staff.

Both Labour and the Alliance will call for more resources and resist any Conservative attempt to impose a curriculum unacceptable to teachers.

## 'Giving effect to a broad consensus'

These are the main points from Mr Baker's announcement to the select committee.

"Pupils are entitled to a curriculum that draws upon individual talents and which challenges the child. This can be guaranteed only if it is required and enforceable by law. That is the principle on which the Government now intends to stand."

The Government wants the national curriculum to be as good as the best minds in the country can make it. The level of attainment to be aimed at and the content of what is taught should reflect the best practice of our good schools.

The duties placed on the schools should leave full scope for good teaching, and for this country's tradition that teachers use their professional talents and skills to adapt the work to each pupil and to develop new approaches as needs arise.

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Second, it is not right that hardly anyone knows with any clarity or in any detail what the schools are trying to do for their pupils. Parents are

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I emphasize that what is defined will be a core: it should leave ample scope for teachers to build around it, to exploit individual pupils' abilities, and to determine their own methods of teaching for the whole ability range.

Having decided the core of what should be learnt, we need to assess pupils' performance in relation to the attainment targets. Those attainments which can be tested will be tested at the key ages.

But we do not want teachers to teach only what is testable, so it will be essential also to assess work done in the class at the key ages. The tests and the assessments would fall to the teachers, but both would be externally moderated.

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Continued from page 1

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## Alliance drafts 12-point plan

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Mr Paddy Ashdown, Liberal education spokesman, told a House of Commons press conference on Wednesday that the Alliance had a 12-point plan for a "fresh start" to rebuilding the education system.

The programme includes reform of the A level system, a new ministry of education and training, greater control for schools over their own management and financial affairs, an independent review body for teachers' pay and conditions and a doubling of the proportion of 18-year-olds entering higher education by 2000.



## Thumbs down from parents

Public opinion polls aren't everything, the politicians tell us. Yet they watch their ups and downs as closely as stockbrokers watch the market. So it is with the TESMORI poll this week. It gives a limited snapshot of public opinion about teachers' pay and their industrial action. Nobody—union leaders, parents' leaders, Mr Baker himself—can fail to test their own confident assertions about the attitudes of parents and the public against this new evidence.

The size of the majority against the teachers' strikes in support of their right to negotiate on pay, is a vindication of Mr Baker's political assessment—at least in the short term. From the teachers' point of view this is bad news, but it will not come as a great surprise. Even the parents' leaders, who have done their best to show solidarity with the teachers, have understood all along that teachers were not going to win over the parents by sending children home.

It could be argued that the size of the minority supporting the teachers is more remarkable than the size of the majority against them. But no amount of rationalization can make this poll good news for the teachers as they go into their Easter conferences. A guerrilla campaign through the summer would be more likely to discourage the minority than browbeat the majority.

The teachers have cultivated the idea that they are badly paid. This is at best a vague concept. What is "well-paid" or "badly-paid", is in the eye of the beholder and depends on unspoken comparisons with other jobs. Houghton thought the teachers were

badly paid. A case can be made out—and the TES would support it—that teachers in maintained schools have always been poorly paid, and that the recent pay increase (though a welcome step in the right direction) still leaves a lot to be desired.

But how general has this belief ever been? The poll shows that a solid majority think teachers are not underpaid. Even among the AB class—the section of the community most likely to have educational backgrounds and qualifications similar to the teachers—only 42 per cent think teachers are hard done by, compared with 47 per cent who don't.

By making it a straight fight between himself and the teachers' unions, Mr Baker has played his political trump. The teachers have a lot of leeway to make up if they are to win this battle for public support. And if they can only protest by taking action which further antagonizes the public, they are on a hiding to nothing.

Mr Baker is now stating as a fact that teachers' pay rates are attractive and offer "good" salary prospects, and he now has some excellent figures for recruitment to teacher training which he is using to back up his claim. Admittedly he is assuming that news travels very fast, but applications for entry to BED, PGCE and Cert Ed courses are now running 12 per cent up on 1986. And in shortage subjects like maths and CDT, the increase is much higher (page 5). The growth of numbers in CDT is particularly gratifying.

The Teaching As A Career (TASC) programme is wholly to be welcomed and the first response to the

press advertisements which have been appearing in recent weeks has been very encouraging. The comparisons with 1986 are, of course, flattering because the 1986 recruitment was as dramatically below target as this year looks like being above. All the extra recruiting so far recorded (or almost all) was during the lull before the NUT and NAS/UWT resumed their programme of strikes.

Also in the news this week, the Royal College of Nursing has been using the teachers' 16.8 per cent pay award as leverage for a rise for nurses. Mr Trevor Clay, the general secretary of the RCN, is not above using what the teachers won by direct action to bolster the claims of his own members who have abjured strikes. Whatever ambivalence the public feels about teachers, the nurses enjoy a large measure of public support, and every time the TV screens show pictures of wards shut down for lack of nursing staff, it ought to strengthen Mr Clay's hand.

The archaic methods of selecting and training nurses probably have a good deal to do with the recruiting figures, quite apart from the pay. The sooner Mr Norman Fowler grasps this nettle—and invokes the co-operation which the polys would be only too delighted to give—the better. But who is going to volunteer for jobs like nursing in Mrs Thatcher's Britain? Only someone perverse enough to stand out against the tide and put the rewards of helping other people ahead of self-interest, money-making and getting on. It will take more than a few percentage points on the pay package to restore nurses' morale.

## COMMENT

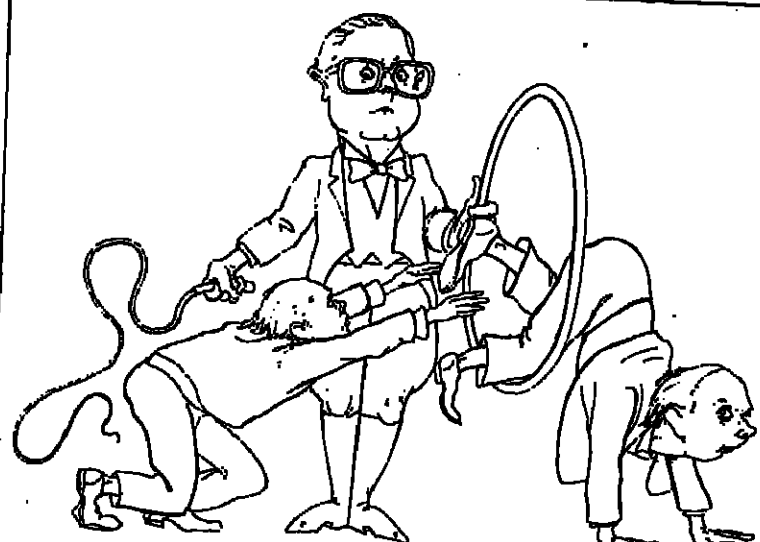
### Tip-top timetables

Mr Baker has now spelled out in a bit more detail his plans for a national core curriculum (page 3). Unfortunately, for every question he answers he raises two more. He seems to have an amazing faith in what Parliament can do which is either naive or a way of side-stepping snags.

Mr Baker senses that there is a political consensus at Westminster for a new deal which would require all pupils everywhere to follow the same core courses. But his words perfectly exemplify his adopted naivety: "the Government intends to legislate early in the next Parliament to establish a national curriculum brought about by the co-operative efforts of the education service, the providers and the customers (our italics). My aim is that when the Secretary of State sets out the national curricula, he will not be imposing his will but giving effect to a broad national consensus." Unfortunately, although our constitution has to pretend that Parliament is all-powerful, no minister can legislate "co-operation". This is a hollow statement. Given the complex and contentious relationships between the Secretary of State and his partners, it has become increasingly unrealistic to expect to avoid the linkage of one area of potential dispute from another.

The same naivety shone out at the very beginning of Mr Baker's statement. "Pupils," he said, "are entitled to a curriculum that draws upon individual talents and which challenges the child. This can be guaranteed only if it is required and enforceable by law [our italics]."

Unfortunately this is grandiloquent but meaningless. No matter how hard Mr Baker or Parliament try they can no more "guarantee" a good curriculum than fly. Nor can they enforce it by law. Does he intend to give the right of enforcement to parents by civil action? Or are we going to see the Secretary of State trying to enforce the impossible guarantee by intervening in every classroom at every hour of the day? Of course, the truth is that Mr Baker



is neither as naive nor as ambitious as he pretends. What will emerge in practice will simply be a large bureaucratic system enforcing a bit more uniformity on 20,000-odd primary schools and 5,000 secondary schools (already heavily controlled through the examination system). It will be neither as oppressive as Mr Baker's words might suggest, nor yet will it live up to his hopes.

It's all about teaching; there is nothing about learning. It treats the curriculum as if it were simply a set of subjects on the timetable. His "very strong working groups" can write programmes to turn the Baker timetable into a set of study plans. But in reality the curriculum doesn't only consist of what the teachers bring to the class, it also turns on what the class brings to the teacher. The uniform curriculum prescribed from on high by what Mr Baker laughingly calls "the best minds in the country" will still mean something different in every classroom in the land.

Mr Baker is clear that he does not want the whole timetable to be dictated nationally; and that he recognizes the danger that his benchmarks at 7, 11 and 14 could become basic minima to which teachers gear their training. He sees the danger, says it will be avoided, but gives no indication how, beyond saying that the teachers should allow for variations in ability.

This all-powerful Parliament will have a job on its hands "guaranteeing" that all Mr Baker's contradictory aims are met. Much more likely is that the benchmarks—internally tested and externally moderated—will become over-important in a school system already prone to allowing exams to be dangerously dominant. But not necessarily so: it could be otherwise if the tests were used for diagnostic purposes not just as a check on teachers and pupils. Experience shows this is expensive. It is much cheaper to let the test results pile up in the cupboard.

Mr Baker's announcement is of profound significance if he survives to carry it through. He told the Select Committee nothing about resources, but the more he seeks to lay down the curriculum the more surely he gets drawn into questions of staffing. If he prescribes science for all, he must find science teachers for all. If he wants a second language for all from 11-16, he must ensure that every school is properly staffed. All this implies more and more intervention by him, more and more executive action, more and more civil servants. Those who have advocated "curriculum-led" staffing have always recognized this logic, and seen it as a way of enforcing demands for resources of all kinds. Does Mr Baker understand this? Is he prepared to follow this road to the end? Or will he be off somewhere else before the crunch comes?

### Optimism from IT

Education is at the centre of the view of the future set out by the Long-Term Perspectives Group of the Information Technology Economic Development Committee, whose report *IT Futures*... IT can work was published yesterday (page 13). It is subtitled an "optimistic view", which is encouraging, but it isn't clear how much substance is left when the froth of IT-speak is blown off.

It is a strange mixture of prescription and prophecy. Presumably the optimism is contingent upon its prescriptions being adopted in the future. These include much more education and training all round.

They also want to see employers providing training for payment in all manner of skills and occupations—and then the government funding young people to buy the training of their choice. They expressly reject the economic theory that employers should only train for their own projected needs.

The authors' special interest in Information Technology does not predispose them towards the Government's policy of switching the balance of higher education towards science and technology at the expense of the humanities.

"In our view of the future, Britain may have to capitalize upon originality, artistic creativity, design flair and professional expertise as much as our technical prowess. We may have to blend art and science as in television broadcasting. We must compete but let us not ignore our areas of competitive strength."

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### no comment

Mick Farley is senior assistant for further and higher education, Liverpool. He spent 1986-87 secondment to the MSC as a quality adviser for the YTS.

## Second opinion

### The outcome mustn't be job-specific

The Manpower Services Commission is poised to use its contract enforcement machinery to enforce mandatory quotas for the Youth Training Scheme while it should be managing agents to offer jobs which are worth having, in different matter to enforce qualifications, without a set and acceptable framework been set. Yet this appears to be happening.

To arrive at mandatory quotas, the MSC has used its "lead bodies" in industry to produce the rapidly discarding schemes for a large number of jobs. And these bodies have been left to go their own way. The YTS is predicated on a job-based modular approach to training, but has no common core, and no shared conceptual framework. A module, for example, is something that may be achieved in one or two, or which on several months. Without coherence and transfer skills, the framework is likely to be infinite variety of modules, coherence and transfer skills.

There is also the question of industry's "lead bodies" chosen. Some 120 industrial organizations and 85 joint councils exist. These range from the training bodies of non-statutory bodies of which have a common base of which may have had some become a "lead body".

The YTS is expected to be outcomes—including personal fitness, transferable skills, ability to apply them—as people are entitled to all four MSC has so far failed to enforce some key, politically sensitive bodies such as the Construction Training Board. And the Council for Vocational Qualifications is expressing concern about the conflict between the specific requirements of employers and the broader-based "vocational" view, which is encouraging, but it isn't clear how much substance is left when the froth of IT-speak is blown off.

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## IN BRIEF

### Union warns of kangaroo court

Teachers have been advised not to attend annual parents' meetings at schools in case they turn into "kangaroo courts".

The first meetings will be held next term, as required by the 1986 Education Act. The Government has suggested that some members of staff and a few senior pupils could be invited.

But the Assistant Masters and Mistresses Association is worried about advice which suggests how criticisms of individuals may be handled, if the person concerned is present.

### Bugging claim

Mr Tony Miller, an executive member of the National Union of Teachers from Birmingham, claims his telephone has been tapped. He plans to lodge a complaint with the Home Office after hearing a short recording of a telephone interview he did with the local BBC Radio station being played back down the line. Mr Miller, after meetings with BBC representatives, is convinced that technical problems were not responsible.

### Top training call

Twelve regional centres to coordinate management training for heads are called for by the National Association of Head Teachers in a discussion paper today. The association, representing 27,500 heads and deputies, also calls on the Government to set up a professional body to supervise a national system of management development for senior teachers.

### Benefit reform

The Government is set to reform the social security system to allow more young people to receive educational maintenance awards. At present maintenance awards are taken into account when assessing the supplementary and housing benefit and the family credit paid to low-income families. From April 1988 no account will be taken of maintenance awards when assessing income-related benefits.

### Strike closures

Seventeen schools in Inner London were forced to close last Thursday morning because of walk-outs sparked off by the authority's redeployment scheme. Members of the National Union of Teachers left schools to lobby County Hall, despite orders from the national union for a representative protest rather than a strike.

### New CTC sponsor

Dixons, the electrical retail chain, is providing £1 million to set up the second of the 20 City Technology Colleges proposed by the Government for 11-18-year-olds with an aptitude in science and technology. Suitable premises are sought in the Doncaster-Rotherham area of Yorkshire.

### Homework poll

Parents give their children little help with homework, not because of lack of time, but because they do not know the answers or fear they are out of date, according to a Gallup poll.

The survey of 600 parents carried out for the publisher, Charles Letts, found that:

- 68 per cent of parents aren't asked for help with their children's homework.
- 48 per cent would like to help their children more, but felt unable to.
- 70 per cent said they lacked knowledge or subject in certain subjects.
- Only 17 per cent could correctly answer a simple maths question taken from a text book for 11-year-olds.

### Travellers' aid

Specialist teachers and advisers are needed to improve opportunities for travellers' children, the National Union of Teachers said this week. The families encountered discrimination and prejudice which paralleled the racism experienced by black communities. Local authorities should provide official lists, free from harassment, where children could benefit from school. Separate teaching provision should be made for the smallest primary schools.

Barry Hugill reports on the surprise announcement of legislation for a national curriculum

## Local authorities irate at timing of Baker statement

Local authority leaders are angry at the timing of Mr Kenneth Baker's announcement on legislation to introduce a national core curriculum.

The Secretary of State surprised a meeting of the Commons Select Committee on Education by unveiling his plan.

There had been no warning of Tuesday's statement and MPs were uncertain whether to protest at Mr Baker's flouting of Parliamentary tradition—major announcements are supposedly made to the House, not to select committees—or he flattered him by having told them first. They succumbed to flattery.

Mr Baker promised legislation in the next Parliament to ensure all children receive a grounding in maths and English, science, a foreign language, history, geography and technology.

Such a curriculum could be guaranteed only if "required and enforceable by law", he said.

The efficacy of the national curriculum would be measured by tests, for pupils aged seven, 11 and 14, to be based on attainment targets that "would allow for variations in ability".

The tests would be set and marked by teachers, but moderated externally. Mr Baker denied his plan would lead to a narrower curriculum. Subjects outside the core would still be taught, and he stressed that the "benchmark" tests were not exams pupils would pass or fail but a way of "drawing out" what they knew.

Mr Baker did not intend to impose a national curriculum, and its content must be largely determined by professional educators—primarily teachers. Representatives of local authority associations were "upset" that he had made his announcement before considering their proposal for a national advisory body on the curriculum—along the lines of that for public sector higher education.

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We want to ensure that pupils have a well-balanced foundation curriculum suitable to their abilities and aptitudes which, during the compulsory period, includes not only maths and English, but also science, foreign languages, history, geography and technology in its various aspects. Time should be

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Peter Smith suggests how the unions could recapture the initiative and show true professionalism now that they have been marginalized over pay and conditions bargaining

# Divided we fall...

The arguments for teacher union amalgamations have been obvious for some time. The Burnham/Ascas debacle, no matter who was to blame, has merely pointed up the logic.

The commercial case is almost unarguable. The subscription income currently funding duplicated bureaucracies—however individually efficient—would be reduced. Some of that liberated revenue could be returned to members in improved services. Some could be used for more cost-effective public campaigning. Teachers would get better value for money. They would be better served in other ways too.

Historically, the various teachers' unions have been divided into being because there were different interests within the profession and identifiable tensions between them. Those tensions will always be hard to reconcile. The last is infinitely harder when they are institutionalized by too many unions competing in a shrinking membership market.

No longer acknowledged as conflicting priorities which can never be simultaneously achieved, the tensions become articles of faith on which compromise is impossible. The resulting and furious scrubbing of dirty linen in public is damaging by any test. Teachers are baffled by their leaders' negotiating manoeuvres: the employers are unable to work out which temporary coalition of unions might deliver an agreement and actually abide by it; the public loses sight of the essential issue over which the unions were trying to win their support; politicians capitalize on the chaos or fill the vacuum, depending on which way you interpret it.

The message of the Teachers' Pay and Conditions Act and the Government's capacity to extend it beyond its initial three-year term is clear. According to Kenneth Baker, unless the

unions can sort themselves out and develop the taste for real negotiation, somebody else had better do it for them. But there is a hidden curriculum too. Mr Baker's repeated assurance that the Act is merely interim, that he has no wish to be the determinant of teachers' pay and conditions, is more than slick public relations. The truth is that he doesn't want the hassle of presiding over a factionalized profession for a moment longer than he has to. If there's going to be any unpopular over pay and conditions settlements, and in the long run there always is, he'd sooner it be fought on his terms.

The complementary reluctance of the unions to shoulder the invidious burden is ironically one of the reasons why I do not believe that mergers will actually happen—and certainly not by 1990. The crucial issue is not, in reality, the unions' recovering the right to negotiate; it is their preparedness to assume the responsibility of striking bargains rather than attitudes, and bargains with inevitable shortcomings and imperfections.

Troubled state—page 10

The other reasons why I do not predict union mergers hardly matter. What does matter, if I am right, are the alternative means by which they meet the challenge which the Government, whatever its motives, has thrown down. Marginalized over pay and conditions bargaining, the precise terms under which they have traditionally still divided unions recapture the initiative?

The most immediate problem—the absence of any national forum in which teachers have to agree—needs only be temporary. The local authorities have already signalled their wish for a joint employer-employee body to

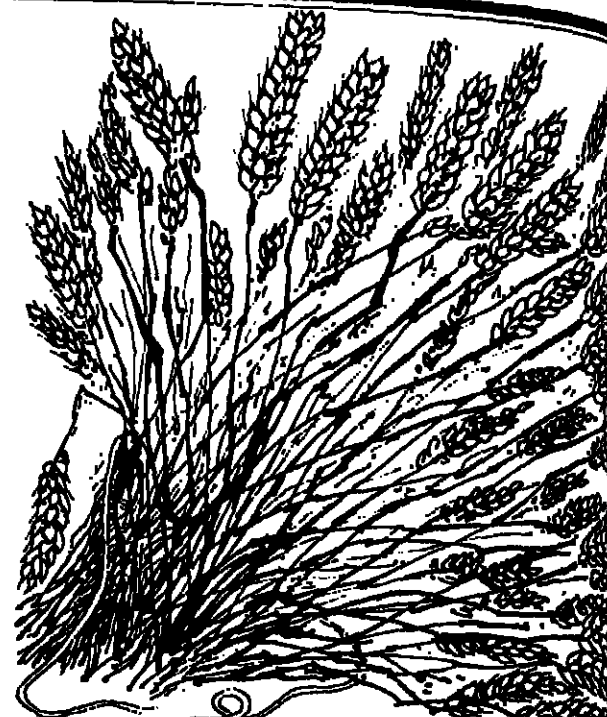
negotiate matters of common interest. We should not be too mesmerized by Mr Baker's imposed settlement to identify what they might be.

The most obvious is also the most urgent: how will the plenary Baker conditions of service framework actually be implemented day-to-day in schools? There are five options at least: pretend that the framework doesn't exist and muddle along; accept that it does exist, but by a mixture of bloody-mindedness and working to rule, seek to subvert it; allow it to be interpreted in as many different ways as there are schools; allow different local authorities to interpret it in 104 different ways; or seek national agreement on how it should be applied.

The most responsible of those options seems to me to be self-evidently the last. It is in the interests of all teachers wanting restored peace, if only because they cannot stand the prospect of endless turmoil with no obvious goal except self-inflicted stress. It is in the interests of all teachers' heads included—of anxious to clear, orderly and fair industrial relations and personnel practices in schools. By no means least, it is the most consistent with the unions' argument for fully restored negotiating rights.

The starting point for such an agreement seems to me equally obvious: a decision on how the 1,265 hours per year which teachers will work under the direction of their heads should be allocated. For the majority of the local authorities and the two unions signatory to the Ascas agreement that should be easy. For those who have already subscribed to a clear, workable understanding, it has resource implications above the Baker ceiling, but the authorities repeatedly went out of their way to make clear that they would meet them.

Mr Baker has adopted the total



1,265 hours, but provided no rationale: nor should he be invited to, unless we are to connive in the very imposition we all oppose. It is for the teachers' unions and employers to underpin it with their own. The first test of the collective will to negotiate could be for them to do just that—and a show of union solidarity on that issue, however narrow, would do more for ordinary teachers than any amount of platform rhetoric.

If there is a need for post-Baker damage limitation, there are also initiatives over which the unions can collaborate. One is a legacy of the Burnham Committee itself—and in danger of disappearing with it.

In its final days, the teachers' panel, admittedly conscious of its imminent dissolution, considered detailed proposals for establishing a jointly funded, independent secretariat. Its main role would have been to collect and analyse data on pay levels and movements as a basis for future salaries claims within the Burnham Committee. Does the abolition of the committee justify abandoning that project when the teachers' organizations need more than ever to present a statistically well-founded and coherent case? That makes no sense, and in my view it should be revived immediately.

Peter Smith is deputy general secretary of the Assistant Masters' Association, but the views are his own.

## DIARY

### Means wiles

The deeply divided teachers' unions are in dire need of a Henry V or a Churchill behind whom they can unite to defeat the wily and formidable Mr Kenneth Baker. Instead, it seems, they have a Macbeth in their midst.

A document, stamped confidential and sent to all NAHT branch secretaries from head office giving advice on how to be good trade unionists, is a positive masterpiece of political agility. The message of old Niccolò—that the end justifies the means—is apparent in practically every line.

The union shop stewards are exhorted, for example, to "know thine enemy", to "hear all, see all, but reveal little", to "beware of corresponding with politicians", and to "remember that politicians are usually more interested in vote-catching than in educational principles".

The most revealing bit, however, comes when the "secret" document turns to giving advice on doing business with other teacher union officers. This is a sample: "We all have trouble with our members (without ever naming any) is a useful sentiment to express and gives a good but false impression of being 'all pats together', which can be used to your advantage."

The document was sent under a covering letter from the NAHT's general secretary, Mr David Hart, who says the advice is intended to "prevent misunderstandings" and to emphasize the need for "fact and diplomacy".

Unfortunately, such intentions are likely to be misunderstood when news of them falls into the wrong hands.

### Powys failure

Here's trouble for you from the Land of Song. A report by HM Inspectors, based on a visit to the Welsh language Ysgol Dyffryn Conwy at Llanrwst, Powys, two years ago, has not been published.

The official explanation is that there have been problems translating the report from English into Welsh. Steps have now been taken to resolve those hold-ups, according to the Welsh Office, so the HMI report should be out soon.

But this has not satisfied Mr Wyn James, general secretary of the Welsh teachers' union, UCAC, who wants to know why HMIs who visit Welsh-medium schools are apparently incapable of writing their reports in Welsh as well as English.

### Trotting them out

Thanks to a breathtaking technological breakthrough, the National Union of Teachers will for the first time be offering delegates at its annual conference, which begins next weekend in Eastbourne, instant video recordings of their performances at the rostrum.

Unfortunately, it could become a bore's charter. One of the uses to which it could be put, according to the union's organ, *The Teacher*, is to play back excerpts of conference debates to NUT members in school. However, it could be particularly useful to Trotskyist union members in emptying the staffroom so they can get on with forcing through their own items on the agenda.

### Aids mémoire

The silly season seems to be starting early this year. At any rate, the number of people who are prepared to make light of the great Aids scare seems to be growing.

The latest daft wheeze comes from Trent Polytechnic students, whose newspaper, *Nottingham Student*, has just proclaimed 1987 "Year of the Condom".

### Acronym

Data relating 1982-1989 taken from the annual reports of the Central Register and the Department of Education and Science. Data for 1986-87 from the TES.

Barry Hugill analyses the new TES/MORI poll on attitudes towards the teachers' dispute

# Only 1 in 3 back claim for higher pay

The TES-commissioned MORI poll is the first reliable indicator of what parents actually think about the long-running dispute between the teacher unions and the Government.

The sample was of 1,609 adults in 160 constituencies in England and Wales. All interviews were conducted face-to-face between March 26 and April 2 and the data were weighted to reflect the known population profile.

Not all of the people interviewed were parents but when the results were broken down it showed that there was no difference between the views of the sample as a whole and those with children of school age.

To the question, "On balance, do you think teachers are underpaid or not?" 33 per cent answered yes and 54 no.

Thirty-nine per cent thought teachers justified in taking strike action over the Government's removal of their rights to negotiate on pay, with 54 per cent considering there was no justification for strikes.

There were, however, variations in response when the answers were broken down according to the age of the parents' children.

Parents with children aged six to



Parents of younger children were the most sympathetic to the teachers' case

nine were the most sympathetic to the teachers, with 38 per cent believing them underpaid. And 43 per cent of this group thought teachers justified in striking in protest at their loss of negotiating rights over pay as opposed to 30 per cent of the population as a whole.

The least sympathetic were parents of children aged 10 to 14, with only 32 per cent considering teachers underpaid and 61 per cent disapproving of

strike action. Perhaps unsurprisingly, the younger the respondent the more sympathy for the teachers. Thirty-eight per cent of 18 to 24-year-olds thought them underpaid as opposed to 28 per cent of the 65-64 age group. Equally unsurprisingly, the higher-paid social class categories (A1) were more likely to consider teachers' pay too low—42 per cent—with those in the lower categories (DE)—31 per cent—least sympathetic.

Question 1: On balance, do you think teachers are underpaid or not?

Children in household		Sex		Age		Region		Voting		Working status	
Total	Aged 6-14	Male	Female	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55+	North Midlands South	Cons	Lab
Yes, underpaid	33	36	38	32	31	33	33	37	34	28	48
No, not underpaid	54	52	48	57	56	54	54	46	54	60	56
Don't know	13	12	14	11	13	13	13	15	12	12	13

Question 2: On balance, do you think the teachers are or are not justified in taking strike action over the Government's removal of their rights to negotiate on pay?

Children in household		Sex		Age		Region		Voting		Working status	
Total	Aged 6-14	Male	Female	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55+	North Midlands South	Cons	Lab
Yes, justified	39	37	42	33	38	43	35	47	36	33	46
No, not justified	54	57	52	61	56	61	56	46	54	53	48
Don't know	7	5	5	6	6	6	9	7	8	9	6

BED courses in craft, design and technology are proving more popular than the one-year PGCE courses which carry the Government's £1,250 bursary. It was disclosed this week.

Introducing a new unit, TASC (Teaching as a Career), to stimulate recruitment, Mr Kenneth Baker announced that applications for the one-year postgraduate CDT course had increased by 71 per cent on last year, while those for the BED were up by 82 per cent.

However, Colonel John Massey, director of the clearing house for applications, said later that he estimated the figure was nearer 95 per cent.

Applications for places on maths and physics PGCE courses offering the £1,250 bursary have also increased substantially (by 39 and 72 per cent respectively).

Colonel Massey emphasized that while the upturn was greatly welcomed, 1986 had been a turbulent year

# Recruitment drive off to a good start

by Bert Lodge

for the profession and had had a depressing effect on recruitment. "Some institutions were not able to reach their planned intake figures," he said.

For example, 341 physics graduates were recruited last year—85 below target. The figures for the three preceding years were 408 (1984), 459 (1983), and 489 (1982).

On the other hand, CDT recruitment was buoyant. Last year's intake of 551

to all courses compared with an annual average of 250 during the early 1980s. But last year's figure was still 200 short of the target.

Applications for all teacher training courses have already reached 27,000, a rise of 12 per cent on last year, when the total intake of 16,945 was well below the target of 18,613.

This year's target figure is 19,602, but Mr Baker expects institutions to exceed this to compensate for last

Recruitment to Initial Teacher Training: March 1987		1982		1983		1984		1985		1986		1987		Percentage change in applications since last year	
Mathematics PGCE		866	947	763	709	741	954(888)	1381(106)	+39	+31					
CDT PGCE + Cert Ed		41	74	80	93	282	238(139)	310(170)	+71	+82					
Physics PGCE		489	469	408	327	341	624(305)		+72						
All subjects PGCE/Cert Ed		8,495	8,011	8,123	8,168	8,024	14,797(13,187)	12,123(10,857)	+12	+12					
Total		15,597	14,314	14,808	15,058	16,945	28,820(24,054)		+12						

Data relating 1982-1989 taken from the annual reports of the Central Register and the Department of Education and Science. Data for 1986-87 from the TES.

pathetic. The most marked variations were regional. In the Greater London area 46 per cent thought teachers underpaid, with 37 per cent supporting their right to strike over the removal of negotiating rights.

In the North and Midlands only 31 per cent considered pay too low, with 30 per cent and 28 per cent respectively supporting the right to strike.

Although the questions were concerned with attitudes to the teachers, respondents were asked their voting intentions. The results were in line with other recently published opinion polls with 41 per cent support for the Conservatives, 29 per cent for Labour and 29 per cent for the Alliance.

Labour supporters were much more likely than Conservatives to sympathize with the teachers—45 per cent as opposed to 23 per cent, considering them underpaid. Thirty-five per cent of declared Alliance voters thought teachers underpaid.

More than half of Labour voters (56 per cent) supported the teachers' right to strike as did 49 per cent of Alliance supporters. Nearly a quarter (24 per cent) of Tories thought the teachers had a case for strike action against the removal of negotiating rights.

Brian Sams (right) takes issue with Tory colleagues such as Philip Merridale (left) and argues that the Government is still committed to local decision-making



# How to safeguard your power base



Keith Joseph introduced the Education Support Grant system. I supported the decision at the time since it seemed reasonable to me that, as about 50 per cent of education expenditure comes from the Government, then it should have a say in how some of it is to be spent.

While the Secretary of State's powers to spend public money have always been limited, the same cannot be said for the Employment Secretary, who is responsible for the Manpower Services Commission.

This seemed to cause no difficulties in the early days, particularly since many councils were making a financial killing out of such schemes as TOPS. But then, two years ago, the publication of the *Training for Jobs* White Paper caused great consternation. Here, the MSC was actually to be involved with courses provided in FE colleges. Again finance was to be used to get the compliance of local education authorities.

The idea of a national curriculum seemed set to become another bone of contention, following the announcement of this initiative, some

the death of education as a local service. To me this is a gross over-reaction. There is really so much that needs to be done to sort out a basic curriculum for children throughout the system. Education authorities, and their school governing bodies, have always had responsibility for the curriculum, but have rarely exercised this authority. Nevertheless, through various devices, and by pressure of a most insidious kind, some Labour councils have actually been influencing the curriculum, and in a most undesirable way.

The heat has recently been taken out of the curriculum debate to some extent by announcements by Giles Radice that the Labour Party plans to go for a national curriculum if it gets control at the next election.

The Technical and Vocational Education Initiative was also opposed by many councils, but in the end, the amount of cash available has been hard to resist, and who can really doubt the educational advantage to thousands of pupils? Would TVE1, or anything like it, have happened without action from the centre?

Legislation for initiatives is one thing; legislation to remove the powers of local education authorities is another. This brings me to the recent proposals surrounding teachers' pay. We all know that has caused over the past few years. In order to try to resolve the impasse in negotiations, a variety of

devices was adopted. In 1983, after one year of stalemate, arbitration had to be used to get a settlement. In the following year, Labour took control of the management side from the Conservatives following the county elections. It didn't.

Then the Labour group took away the weighted vote of the Secretary of State; they still did not get a settlement. Then the leader of the employment side was changed; again an agreement was still not possible. The balance of power in the teachers' side was changed when the National Union of Teachers lost its majority; again no agreement. Isn't it staggering to think that the present industrial action is being invoked principally to restore national bargaining machinery of this very same kind?

It seems to me that an independent review body or the proposed advisory committee is an obvious step forward. It will be able to receive evidence from all sides, so the teachers and employers will still have a major role to play.

Other groups in the public service work in this way, so why should not the teachers? The local education authorities have such issues as appointments, deployment and redeployment, disciplinary matters, and in-service training.

Mr Sams is chairman of the education committee and a member of the Association of Education Authorities.

Apparatus





Travel period: female bricklayers on the Hackney direct labour scheme

## Pushing over the male chauvinist brickies' wall

Women make up a tiny percentage of Britain's construction industry workers. The Equal Opportunities Commission says that women represented 6 per cent of the full-time employees in 1985 but they are more likely to be pushing forms round offices than laying bricks or drawing plans.

Market forces could, however, come to the aid of aspiring female brickies and technicians. A fall in the number of school-leavers, coupled with the reluctance of young men to join the trade, leaves a gap in the workforce.

But companies haven't yet realized that they desperately need female employees, according to the managing director of a large construction firm.

He was taking part in a workshop at a conference in London organized by the Women in Construction Advisory Group. It drew together building college principals, representatives from public and private sectors of the industry, training centres, employers' federations, education authorities, trade unions and training bodies.

During the conference it became clear that women haven't appreciated the potential demand for their skills either. A man from Wimpey confessed that fewer than 1 in 50 of the applicants for his company's taster courses were women. But of those who applied, 100 per cent were accepted.

This is hardly surprising given the educational background of most girls, the poor knowledge of careers teachers and the attitude towards women of further education lecturers

### Diane Spencer reports on the education service's latest attempts to encourage girls to take up jobs in the construction industry

and male students.

The last point was well illustrated by an elegantly dressed woman lecturer who said: "I'm a bricklayer by trade. The main problem in a lot of colleges is male chauvinist piggery."

She was told that she could not take a course because women had to learn that brick-laying was a male-dominated trade. So far, her college had taken only a few women students on painting and decoration courses but they had left because of the men's attitudes.

Ms Mary Shiel, from the advisory group, said colleges would have to stop catering only for 16 to 19-year-old women from a wider age range, and other ethnic groups.

Hackney College in east London has recognized that women face special difficulties and has seconded a lecturer, Ms Ceri Williams, for half-a-day a week to support and counsel students on craft and technical courses.

She carried out a survey of women students' attitudes and problems last summer. Child care was a major drawback. Some women couldn't attend college because there was no

crèche. Others left because they found no one to look after their children.

Some disliked the "technical college" atmosphere. "Technical college is dead over 30s... Unfortunately, it is necessarily geared to male, repulsive school-leaver attitudes to their resentment of school college classroom. Most of the women being treated as such by unadaptable male lecturers."

Ms Williams found that women wanted more women lecturers, own common room and to practice on sexual harassment.

The picture is not all gloom. It is not the only college been trying to attract women. At Vauxhall & South London, for example, women-only, one-year construction and land use. Many go on to become technicians which are ignored by career mainly because they have about them.

The women's advisory group to dispel that ignorance. To work as part of a team in a social office, or on a architects, surveyors, town planners or civil engineers.

However, it may be before women are treated as equal in the industry. One of the reasons why women do not work on building sites is ignorance and prejudice. "They don't want to travel in rubber boots and hard hats,"

"For most children, education is a mystical experience; they don't understand what's happening to them and they don't know what's going to happen next," says Mr David Garforth, Dorset's director for assessment and profiling. The Dorset pupil-profiling scheme aims to unravel the mystery.

In Dorset, profiles are more than pieces of paper recording pupils' achievements; they encourage pupils and teachers to review and change what's happening in the classroom. Many of the 51 schools involved in the profiling pilot have already radically altered their curriculum and teaching styles. Unusually, the Dorset pilot scheme, one of nine funded by the Department of Education and Science, includes middle and special schools.

At West Moors middle school, near Farnham, pupils now assess their own needs and progress. As part of science and maths lessons, the children fill in questionnaires which help them to check if they have followed the correct procedures for an experiment or investigation. They also have the chance to comment on their own performance and discuss it with the teacher.

Mrs Pat Lewis, deputy head at West Moors and co-ordinator of the profiling project, believes that self-assessment helps pupils to think scientifically.



Rob Sammons and Marlon Pegorini: focusing on basic skills

Susannah Kirkman looks at Dorset's pupil profiling scheme - one of the most advanced in the country

## Record profits

"By asking themselves questions like, 'Was my experiment a fair test?' children are finding out what a scientist is," she explained.

Feedback from pupils and the need to assess achievement accurately are also helping staff to structure their teaching. They meet together regularly to define the exact skills and goals which they want the children to achieve.

Mr Garforth is convinced that the detailed assessment involved in profiling increases pupils' motivation. "Five out of ten is arbitrary; children don't understand what it means and it doesn't help them to improve," he said.

Records of achievement enable children to understand the ethos of their school, too, according to Mr Rob Nicholson, West Moors' headteacher. All third and fourth-year pupils have a personal achievement, interest and experience record which they fill in with their parents and form tutors. "By including examples of where

they have helped others or joined in school activities as achievements, children begin to see the qualities the school values," he said.

The West Moors record of achievement has a completely open format with no checklists, as staff think children should be able to decide themselves the activities which are important to them. It was designed with the help of parents and governors.

Eventually, all the pupils will have files where they store their records of achievement and pieces of school work which they are proud of. At the end of each school year, the children and their tutors will select the items which they want to be passed on to the pupils' next tutor, or to the head of year at the upper school.

West Moors' feeder first schools are also discussing the introduction of records of achievement. The DES view that profiles are for 10-year-olds is condemned as naive by Mr Garforth. Pupils with special educational needs are included in Dorset's profiling project, too. "It gives us the opportunity to make a positive statement about all the children," said Mrs Marlon Pegorini, the teacher co-ordinating profiling at Montacute School in Poole, which caters for children with severe handicaps.

Staff at Montacute have used the scheme as a vehicle for changing the curriculum and teaching methods. "We must match profiling and assessment to the curriculum," said Mr Rob Sammons, the head. Montacute is switching from a developmentally-based curriculum, where pupils are coached to achieve the next stage on a linear development chart, to skills-based learning. "We used to say that we 'did' country dancing; that told us nothing. Now we're looking at the specific skills involved in an activity and we're teaching those," Mr Sammons said.

Each task - making a cup of tea, for instance - has been broken down into very small steps which staff must teach and then assess. In the past, children

failed at activities because they hadn't mastered the basic skills they needed; profiling will help staff to check that pupils have grasped core skills.

But Montacute's record of achievement also has space for qualities like creativity, which can't be evaluated, as well as for activities like outings and holidays where skills can be practised. Staff at West Moors and Montacute are enthusiastic about the support they have received from the education authority. Both schools have been given generous supply cover to release the teachers co-ordinating the scheme, who have carried out extensive research into different methods of profiling. All the teachers at Montacute have been allowed some time off for in-service training in new teaching and assessment techniques. And the L.E.A. has just run a weekend residential course in management skills for profiling co-ordinators.

Ninety per cent of teachers have no training in assessment, according to Mr Garforth. Yet they need skills and confidence to carry out the new pupil-centred assessment.

Schools have had some funding for equipment, but a £250 grant from the School Curriculum Development Committee provided the materials West Moors school needed to develop and print pupils' record of achievement booklets.

Teachers are particularly grateful to the authority for the freedom it has allowed schools to design their own individual profiling schemes. "The Dorset profiling team of five specialists in different areas of the curriculum is very hard to offer advice, but Mr Garforth is convinced that the project will not work if it is imposed."

"It's important to give teachers responsibility for what they're doing," he said. "I believe in the professional integrity of teachers, not in horror stories about bad lessons."

So far, Mr Garforth's faith has been amply rewarded. Work on the profiling pilot continued throughout the last round of the teachers' pay dispute and the authority has been besieged with requests from schools which would like to take part.

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## A school pond that's bound to make waves

An award-winning school in the Inner London Education Authority is already doing its best to counter the bias against women in the construction industry.

For 15 girls at Aylwin school, south London, Wednesday afternoon means bricklaying, painting and decorating, roof tiling or making bookshelves.

Since last September they have been taking part in an "architectural workshop" which was one of the winners of the awards scheme run by the Centre for the Study of Comprehensive Schools.

Aylwin, a 700-pupil girls' comprehensive in Southwark, will be using its share of the £19,000 put up for the scheme to build a pond with a paved and landscaped surround. This project will give the girls the chance to improve their building techniques and provide a permanent conservation area.

Miss Jean Thomas, the acting head of the school, says the "do-it-yourself" leisure activities have proved so popular with the fifth-formers that younger girls will be able to join in next year. The architectural workshop is one of about 18 around the country which are sponsored by the Royal Institute of British Architects.

The RIBA has given awards to 40 comprehensive schools out of 500 applicants. BP has provided more than 60 per cent of the money and other firms,

including IBM, Esso and JCB have contributed the remainder.

The selectors were looking for ideas that would involve teachers and would be valuable to the curriculum. Everton High, Blackburn, another winner, will be used for household management teaching and as a base for work to the local community.

Pupils at Farnway Vale in Wiltshire are using their grant to build a sheep. Their teachers say this will help the youngsters to learn about budgeting, team work, planning and communications, as well as to look after the animals. They expect to get a profit of £100 when the lambs go to market.

Miss Thomas at Aylwin is particularly pleased to receive the award because it can be used to support the ILEA's plans to support the school with the local boys' school will also boost the school's "opportunities" policy, she said.

If the pond project proves successful, construction skills could be a proper subject option for girls' upper school. Two girls have been applying for VTS courses in decorating and building and one has a university place in architecture.



Breaking out of the old occupational frame at Aylwin's architectural workshop

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## PRIMARY

Sarah Bayliss reports on research which claims to prove conclusively that pre-school education increases children's potential

## Early start hints at lasting results

A British researcher claims to have established conclusively that pre-school education increases children's educational potential and in the long run gives them higher academic scores than pupils with no pre-school experience.

The report, which was previewed two years ago in *The TES*, was commissioned by the Department of Education and Science and is being published in a book this week by Oxford University Press.

It is based on the experiences of a cohort of 16,000 children born in a single week in April 1970 and whose lives have been followed ever since by the Child Health and Education Study at Bristol University.

Dr Albert Osborn, a research fellow at Bristol and joint author of the book, claims to have found that pre-school experience in a wide range of playgroups, day nurseries, nursery schools and classes during the 1970s gave children from all social backgrounds a marked educational advantage when they were tested at five and ten years of age, in reading, maths and general intelligence.

"The actual type of pre-school experience 'matters very little', according to Dr Osborn, although children from playgroups performed particularly well. The important difference was between those with a pre-school background and those with none.

The findings could provide strong ammunition for the pre-school lobby, but the statistical validity of the work has been questioned.

Since a first draft was written in 1985, the Bristol research has been picked over by a number of eminent

researchers, including Professor Barbara Tizard, director of the Thomas Coram Research Unit in London who organized a conference to sift through the data.

Members of her unit believe strongly that in fact no long-term justification of pre-school education is necessary, so long as parents are demanding it and there are observable benefits at the time for individual children.

This week Mr Charlie Owen, a researcher from the unit, said: "The long-term effect of pre-school is still an open question, but we don't believe the case rests or falls on that."

Of the Bristol research, he said: "It seems to me that the differences in educational attainment are more plausibly explained by the differential use of pre-school services and by differences in experience between five and ten years of age, rather than by long-term effects of pre-school experience."

As an example, he said: "Many of the 10-year-olds who were doing better were not doing better because they had been at playgroup, but because they're from families where children would be doing better anyway."

Nevertheless, Dr Albert Osborn stood by his findings this week and, if anything, he believed in them more strongly. "I have done further analysis as a result of the questions raised and my feeling is that the evidence has grown stronger."

No one disputes that the study has uncovered some important facts about pre-school provision, particularly the patchiness of its provision, regionally and socially.

In 1975, one child in four in the study reached the age of five without having had any organized form of pre-school education, and a large proportion of those came from families in which poor housing, low income, job insecurity and other social problems predominated. Over 45 per cent of socially disadvantaged children were deprived of pre-schooling compared with 10 per cent of the most advantaged children.

Playgroups provided for the bulk of children - 45 per cent - while only 1.3 per cent went to local authority day nurseries. Roughly 70 per cent of all children in the sample received some form of provision lasting at least three months.

There were marked regional inequalities with almost 42 per cent of children in the north having no pre-school experience, compared with 19.6 per cent in the south-east.

Moving house was often a disruptive influence and children who moved frequently were more likely to have no pre-school experience.

Children in large families were less likely to attend, as were children no longer living with both their natural or adoptive parents. As many as 46 per cent of Indian/Pakistani children and 35 per cent of Afro-Caribbean children were non-attenders compared with 28 per cent of European or British born children.

The findings clearly support the involvement of parents in pre-school institutions, since children whose mothers helped in some way had better vocabulary, reading and mathematics scores at 10 and were assessed by teachers as having better communication skills.

The researchers measured parental involvement and the level of interest shown by parents when children were 10 years old to make sure that these factors were not the sole reason for higher attainment. "The positive associations between the child's pre-school experience and subsequent attainment still held," says the book.

The conclusion contains some important warnings about children being admitted into infant classes early, since these children were found not to have benefited. At the same time, questions are raised about nursery classes attached to infant schools which appeared to have the least beneficial result compared with other forms of pre-school.

Dr Osborn speculates this may be to do with the isolation of nursery teachers in primary schools, high adult-child ratios and full-time attendance. The contrast is drawn with nursery schools which, after playgroups, were seen to have the most beneficial effect.

*The effects of early education - a report from the Child Health Education Study, by A F Osborn and J E Milbank, published by Oxford University Press, price £7.95 (paperback), £22.50 (hardback).*

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## A nurse place for every child promised

A major development plan for education in Leeds will mean a place to every child who wants one, the city's Labour council announced this week.

The plan will create 1,000 full-time places at a cost of £1.5 million. Since 1980, nursery places have been a top priority for the group. Ninety-one out of 100 already been attached to primary schools have been filled.

There are currently 3,200 nursery places which - standard provision of part-time means more than 6,000 available already on roll.

The new ten year plan which will form an important Labour's local election manifesto - will also create 100 posts and 167 nursery places at a cost of £2.2 million.

Announcing the programme, Doreen Hamilton, the council's nursery committee, said: "I get letters from parents asking when we're going to open a nursery for them - here's the answer."

Mrs Hamilton retires after churning the nursery since its inception in 1981. The first phase of nursery starts this financial year and will provide 663 new places for at 20 existing primary schools.



Tertiary: good recipe, says union

## Backing for poly policy on recruits

by Julia Hagedorn

The recruitment policy of the Polytechnic of North London, which is under threat from new Government regulations, has been highly praised by the Council for National Academic Awards.

In a draft report of its February visit to the polytechnic to look at the initial BED honours course, the CNA found that the course team was successfully attracting students of high calibre from ethnic minorities and through non-traditional routes.

The visiting party said it wished to place on record its satisfaction with the admission arrangements for both the existing and the revised BED courses. From the evidence of external examiners, members said, and from statistics collected by the polytechnic as well as from the visiting party's own meetings with students, they had every confidence in North London's recruitment policy.

Another part of the draft report praises the polytechnic's BED students as being "articulate and insightful", providing "a lively, articulate and thoughtful commentary on the current course", and of excellent quality.

The CNA sees the access course at City and East London College, which guarantees entry into the polytechnic, as an important route by which students can enter and agree that it should continue to be recognized "for normal entry purposes".

This is the very form of entry which is under threat because the Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education, which is responsible for evaluating all initial teacher training courses, has stipulated that "at least 75 per cent of students entering any one course should possess the normal qualifications for entry to a first degree course". At the Polytechnic of North London, more than 50 per cent of students are recruited through non-standard entry procedures, of which around 60 per cent are black.

The polytechnic has not yet received its HM Inspectorate report and is one of the last institutions to be inspected. There is a feeling within the polytechnic that it may have been put at the bottom of the pile because of the problems concerning entry qualifications. BED course leaders are confident, however, that their revisions will satisfy CATE criteria fully in all other aspects.

The full CNA report is due to be published soon.

### Williams attack

The Government's record in micro-electronics education has come under fire from Sir Shirley Williams, the Social Democratic Party president. She told an international computer-assisted learning conference in Glasgow last week that schools were quite inadequately equipped, with an average of only one micro-per 60 pupils.

The future training of teachers in the NUT, 120 New Road, Bury, Middlesex TW14 8AT.

## NEWS

## NUT moves down tertiary road

by Ian Nash

Britain's largest teachers' union has come closer than ever before to unequivocal support for tertiary colleges in its policy statement on 16-19 education published today. Regulations governing the school and further education sectors should be reformed and secondary teachers should be prepared to teach adults and community groups, according to the National Union of Teachers' document.

It rejects claims by the Audit Commission, however, that six forms of entry in the 11-16 years are necessary to support a viable sixth-form curriculum and insists that in rural or close-knit urban areas, four forms are satisfactory.

The NUT some time ago conceded the loss of sixth forms from 11-18 comprehensive schools in areas affected by falling rolls, but has opted for no single institutional reform to

replace them. The latest statement stresses that "the pattern chosen should be considered in the light of local circumstances and needs".

But the NUT Policy Statement on Tertiary Education gives short shrift to alternatives such as sixth-form consortia, the concentration of A level studies in selected or "nucleus" schools, or sixth-form colleges and centres. It sees major disadvantages in mainstream schools, which would deprive remaining 11-16 institutions of essential teacher expertise with a drift of staff to the "higher status" 11-19 schools.

Consortia lead to wasted time spent travelling for students and staff as well as poor pastoral, careers and tutorial guidance. The union is further concerned that these arrangements have not improved staying-on rates or examination successes. Sixth-form col-

leges and centres were successful with A level students, but have been criticized as too academic and elitist, with no provision for part-time study or vocational courses.

Tertiary colleges offer a good environment for transition to adulthood, with pastoral care and social cohesion, says the NUT. Tertiary colleges are also more flexible, offering a wide range of academic and vocational courses and new career prospects.

They are well-placed to provide a range of social, recreational, cultural, community and sporting activities as well as education for leisure. The NUT also welcomes increasing adult and community involvement in schools and says teachers "should be prepared to include adults". But the union insists that tertiary colleges are not a cheap alternative to traditional sixth-form

and FE provision and urges local education authorities not to sell off "redundant" school buildings when reorganizing at secondary level but to use them to improve facilities.

A 12-point statement on negotiations for reorganization seeks a "ring fence" policy for affected schools to give existing staff first choice of jobs.

All teachers and lecturers should be eligible to apply for posts and arrangements must be made to allow those who remain in the 11-16 schools to do some teaching in tertiary colleges.

The NUT also calls for a "safeguarding" agreement to include protection of existing salary levels, no compulsory redundancies, provision for premature retirement where appropriate, in-service training, and an appeals procedure for teachers who are dissatisfied with offers.

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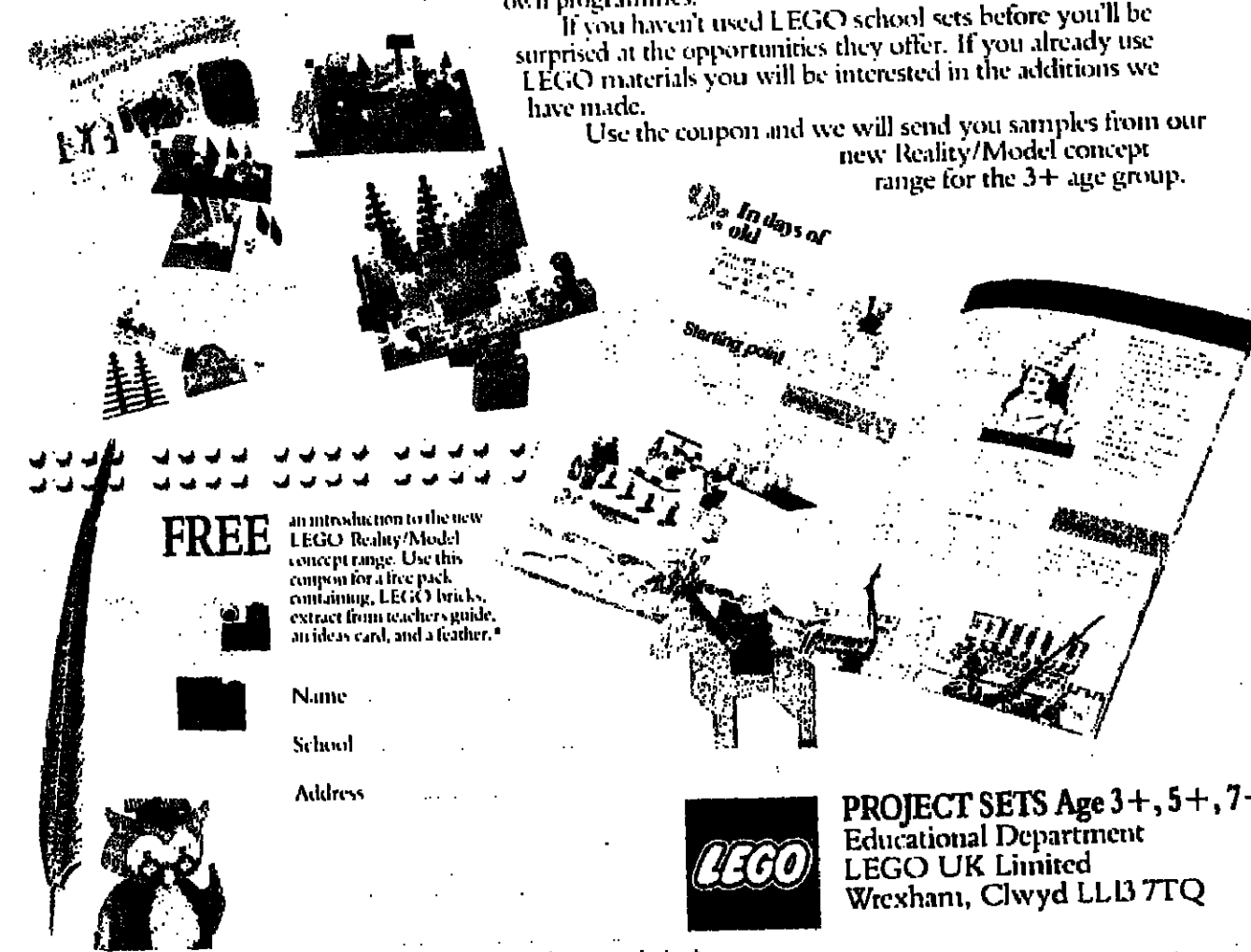
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## NEWS

Sue Surkes and Diane Spencer examine the main issue facing deaf children - whether they should be taught in sign language

## Teachers urge GCSE tailoring

Teachers of the deaf are joining forces to negotiate with exam boards for GCSE syllabuses which will suit their pupils.

Deaf children are at a disadvantage under the new exam rules, their teachers say, because the GCSE requires a more complex use of language than GSE Mode 1.

More than 70 teachers and representatives of organizations concerned with deaf and hearing-impaired people met recently at Oak Lodge School in south London to discuss ways to help pupils.

They discovered a degree of inconsistency between exam boards: some accepted a submission for a syllabus, whereas others refused, saying it would be unacceptable to the Secondary Examination Council. Consequently, very little is available for deaf candidates for 1988 exams, Mr Peter Merrifield, head of Oak Lodge, said.

The meeting decided on a greater degree of co-operation between schools. Working parties are being set up for specific subjects and the British Association for Teachers of the Deaf has formed a subcommittee to investigate the issues.

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## Assessing needs - the gesture must be made

When Emma Tumim, who was born deaf, went to school, sign language was discouraged.

By the age of five, she still had minimal vocabulary, no grasp of syntax, and could not communicate with anyone.

While the residential school for the deaf she attended in Yorkshire concentrated on oral teaching, she picked up a pidgin version of British Sign Language from her schoolmates which she could combine with the Cued Speech - a system of hand cues synchronized with speech - which she had been taught by her determined mother, Winifred.

"It was only when she learnt to sign that she learnt to communicate confidently," said her mother.

Emma, one of an estimated 100,000 profoundly deaf people in Britain, is now aged 23, living in Oxford and about to begin a postgraduate diploma course in interior design. She is one of the lucky ones who has managed to succeed despite her disability.

Mrs Tumim, who is chairman of the Royal National Institute for the Deaf, was a member of the Warnock Committee, and holds a linguistics qualification, but she spoke to *The TES* "as a parent". She believes firmly that British Sign Language - which she describes as the natural language of the deaf - should be made available to those who need it.

Not that she is in favour of blanket provision. The teaching of the deaf has come a long way since Emma was at school and the vogue was for oral teaching based on an artificial form of auditory training using headphones.

she points out.

Nowadays, many deaf youngsters with some residual hearing benefit from technologically-advanced hearing aids and a more natural form of language teaching that might, for example, use recitation of a nursery rhyme to convey rhythm.

Besides, she adds, different youngsters respond in different ways to different forms of tuition. "It's more complicated than the National Union of the Deaf make out. The notion that if every deaf child - and there is a continuum - is given British Sign Language they will be educated is an over simplification. What they must bear in mind is that different people have different needs."

"What is needed is a much more sensitive way of assessing the needs of deaf children so that British Sign Language is available for those children who must have it. At the moment, if a local authority has a policy of no sign language, then the student has no choice. There is no principled way of assessing the needs of different children, so these wretched children are denied their birthright."

Mrs Tumim wants to see the retention of specialized initial teacher training for teachers of the deaf, an encouragement of positive attitudes towards sign language among teacher trainees and an increase in the number of deaf teachers to act as role models and give deaf children confidence.

On the issue of integration into mainstream schools, she is more ambivalent. Many deaf children are successfully integrating, whether into units attached to ordinary schools or in



Emma Tumim tells a police officer why she has joined a protest outside the Monday asking for sign language to be taught in schools.

fully integrated classes, she says. "But if the child can't receive the communication naturally, the child is not going to gain a great deal from being in integrated education."

● The National Union of the Deaf is demanding that deaf children should be treated as a linguistic minority and be taught sign language to improve their education.

In a response to the Department of Education's document, *Better Schools*, it calls for a radical re-think of training of teachers of deaf pupils. Education courses in Manchester, Oxford, Wall-hall, and Moray House should be closed at the end of the 1988/89 academic year, "provided that an acceptable alternative can be put forward". These are the main departments for specialized teaching for the deaf.

The NUD thinks it impossible for these departments to make the kind of change needed to produce teachers who can use British Sign Language. And more teachers of the deaf should be deaf themselves, it says.

The union points out that deaf children's achievements have not im-



## NEWS



James Meikle previews the teachers' Easter conference season

## Troubled state of the unions

The hothouse conference season is upon the teacher unions once again – just when they may need a long, cool look at their futures.

The traditional tactics of industrial action, strikes, refusal to cover for absent colleagues and withdrawal of goodwill remain on the agenda, at least of the two Trades Union Congress affiliates, despite a new Government toughness, a growing readiness by the local authority employers to exert legal and financial penalties.

While the tactics have remained the same, the aims – and this is what confuses the public – have changed. What started years ago as a pay and conditions campaign, with the subsidiary purpose of demanding more resources for education generally, has become a fight to restore negotiating rights.

This week's TES MORI pole shows that the two unions have not convinced parents that the battle is worth fighting, although articulate leaders of parent groups, while condemning disruption of schools, have laid the blame at the Government's door.

Furthermore, there is little evidence that the National Union of Teachers and the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers have convinced the wider trade union movement. Up until the end of last year, the teachers had been left to conduct their own disputes, perhaps in a more sophisticated manner than other unions, used to the all-out strike, but also in a manner that probably caused more trouble for working parents than political decision-makers.

The TUC hierarchy now complains that the suspension of negotiating rights for teachers and the hint of regional differences in salaries spell trouble for other public and private sector unions.

But the teachers are still no heroes of the Labour movement, or exciting as much grassroots support as the miners or the threatened union members of GCHQ.

The Government is clearly wrong in making the teachers out to be led by unrepresentative militants (as old habit). Indeed, its imposition of pay, conditions, and career structure, and the aspirations cast on union leaderships, inflamed even battle-weary teachers into new anger.

This was demonstrated not just by the NUT and NAS/UWT ballots approving more disruptive action, but also by the significant 42 per cent vote in favour of a protest stoppage from the Assistant Masters and Mistresses Association.

Ministers invited a macho, knee-jerk response by putting on the line everything unions stand for in terms of pay and conditions of employment. But there is some concern among the unions that activists might harness the genuine resentment to prolong industrial protest, which many see as the

able and necessary, at the expense of other tactics.

Teachers are becoming increasingly unionized (though not in the traditional TUC unions) and increasingly politicized (anti-Government, rather than party political) but they are also in danger of being finally marginalized as public and political influences.

The "striking" unions, locked into industrial action for every complaint (moaning that such is the only way to get coverage from the tabloid press), risk firing all that is left in their locker at the Conservatives and having to live after an election with Mrs Thatcher – for whom many of their members will still vote.

And after an election, even if Labour or the Alliance do manage to get their way, education and teachers' pay may not be the burning issue of the day.

Teachers are cavalier in their attitude towards public and parental opinion, since they have tended to see public anger at their use of disruption as a weapon in the pay battle, rather than public support for their cause.

Union leaders have lined up with parents' organizations at a few well-publicized events calling for adequate funding for the whole education service, but their own unity has been threadbare, degenerating into abuse, name-calling, and bitter membership battles, involving posturing over action threats from the NUT and NAS/UWT, advertising campaigns, and cut-price membership offers to teachers who defect from rival organizations.

This failure to agree common policy annoys many of their own members, amazes the rank and file of non-teaching trade unions and prompted even Mr Norman Willis, the TUC's general secretary, to knock the heads of the TUC-affiliates together and urge merger talks.

The NAS/UWT has up to now shown a marked reluctance to countenance the idea, not surprisingly since it is the smaller organization, built much of its success on opposition to the NUT, and ridicules much of that union's internal factionalism. There are also vested interests within the union bureaucracy – jobs for the boys and girls, to put it crudely – at stake.

However, both the general secretariats will be up for grabs in the next two or three years and the issue will need to be sorted out by then. The traditions of the different unions are likely to conspire against merger, but a primary sector which handed over to the secondary to the NUT and the secondary to the NAS/UWT is, at least in TUC recruiting terms, among the possibilities.

Opponents will point to the fundamental split this could cause in the profession, but the Association of University Teachers does not "poach" from the National Association of Teachers in Further and Higher Education, with its interest in further education colleges, but rather in

controlled polytechnics, and colleges of higher education.

It would be foolish to suggest that the arguments are only between TUC friends, the Secondary Heads Association, the smaller of the two unions representing only heads and deputies, has steadfastly resisted the advances of the National Association of Head Teachers.

Conference debates this Easter and summer will also consider laying the foundations of a professional body (a general teaching council or something less formal) which could examine curriculum matters, resources, examinations, entry to the profession, and its public relations.

But first the unions want to sort out their internal tensions. Divisions have helped the membership decline in the traditionally militant unions; the smaller unions have grown as the teaching force has shrunk.

The NUT has lost about 20,000 members in English and Welsh state schools in the past two years, and now

### Shifting allegiances

Changes in numbers of members since 1985 are:

NUT	down 20,000
NAS/UWT	down 11,000
AMMA	up 22,500
PAT	up 12,500

has about 195,000 "active" members in the old "Burnham-related" sphere.

The NAS/UWT has fallen by about 11,000 from its 1985 figure of 115,000. The AMMA has gained 22,500 members in the sector over the same period, to a total of more than 87,000, while membership of the non-striking Professional Association of Teachers has gone up from 21,250 to 34,000.

The recruiting battleground has long since moved into the NUT-dominated primary schools. Traditionally, primary teachers, particularly in small rural schools, are less likely to take industrial action. They have closer and more direct links with parents, the children are younger and more vulnerable, and staff are more susceptible to pressure than in the anonymity of a large secondary school.

A recent survey by *Child Education* magazine suggested that one in six primary teachers had switched allegiance over the past 18 months.

People join unions for all sorts of reasons. It may depend on the first recruiting leaflet picked up at teacher training college (still the target mostly of the NUT and the NAS/UWT), the heads' union in a small school, the "best offers" in terms of legal advice, insurance, and general information in what can still be an isolated career. Some teachers change unions because they do not think their present organization is fulfilling enough. More

seem to swap because they believe industrial action is not the right answer to pay and conditions battles, or simply because their first union does not represent their own interests enough (primary, secondary, comprehensive, grammar or independent).

However, most members are intensely loyal to their first choice, and self-doubts are bound to add to the crisis in morale.

All the unions have their problems. The NUT, still the largest union, was once a powerful, education voice in the land. It was on cosy terms with the Government, was identified with the heady days of progressive teaching, and finally got the GCSE, the exam for the comprehensive age.

Now it is shut out of the corridors of power, feels it is forced to make the best of the GCSE, underfunded, late and nearly out of date, and is unsure how to respond to the spread of tertiary education, which threatens the supremacy of the sixth-form.

What happened to the mass crusade for education led by the NUT's president, Mr Bob Richardson, at his inaugural address in Blackpool a year ago? What happened to the campaign to raise the status of primary schools, (still the NUT's heartland)? All was dissipated in the demands of the general pay and conditions battle.

Few within the NUT question the need for the present stand on negotiating rights, but there are those who believe that industrial action is calling up union funds which could be directed at grassroots education about education – even if the TUC-backed Education Alliance has singularly failed to make much headway on such terms.

There are signs, too, that the old political battles within the NUT may be about to resurface but there are traditions which could resurrect its standing.

The NAS/UWT may be heading for the quickest fall of all in these anti-union days. Driven by the ethos of the late Mr Terry Casey, who as general secretary remarked how teachers' attitudes to industrial relations were hampered by the "silly union professionalism", it has prided itself on being the "real" trade union, protector of the right to fight.

The union has an internal discipline that is the envy of others, and it is less reluctant than its main rival to expel people who break its rules or ignore its instructions.

The NAS/UWT also manages to strike chords in the hearts of some of its strongest opponents within the profession. Thus, even PAT members went on protest marches and raised money for NAS/UWT members suspended from Poundsworth high school, Manchester, for refusing to teach five boys excluded from classes but released by the city education authority. The NAS/UWT has, to be fair, been building up a good educational tradi-

tion, and it has modified its attitude towards balloting on strikes, a cause of pressure from its media or from other unions but the financial penalty under the new legislation.

There are growing pains in the unions. The AMMA is changing nature, although it still represents many independent schools some of whom have felt outcasts at union HQ, and who ought to have voted in the results on a half-day strike.

The AMMA allied itself to the pay talks with employers ultimately failed. There is a militancy along with the new membership. This is most obvious in the big schools campaign against the Government tactic the union believes is using new friends outside the profession.

Its educational advice, secondary and subject-specific, needs an overhaul to match primary school recruitment.

The PAT has grown because of what are considered excesses by the Government. The organization an important one still does not merit, through the non-striking rule, while the leadership exercises influence at Department of Education and Science because it talks to ministers in their own TUC-unions sulk in their terms.

The typical PAT member is a woman primary teacher, but becoming an increasingly diverse organization with fingers in most schools and a small, but vocal, and further education lobby.

Its headiest days would be a bereft, however, if other teachers loyal to their unions, agreed a constant disruption of schools (it is no longer effective).

The splits between unions are probably too old for absolute unity. TUC pressure and grassroots demand for brotherhood may change slowly, but defeat at the hands of Tories may prove the most important catalyst for change.

Market forces may in the end pay the teachers what it is not just in the present shortage areas, but the unions will have to speak with one voice if they are to have a real say in the rebuilding.

The Easter conference season off with the meeting of the Secondary Heads Association at Nottingham day – a group therapy session for the AMMA, NUT, and NAS/UWT, policy-making events to follow.

Last year, publisher Robert well bruised the egos of SHA members by blaming them for professional failure and saying education should be the entire responsibility of Government.

They will be hoping, after 12 months of trauma, that the Education Secretary, Mr Kenneth Baker, cheers them up tonight.

Jeremy Sutcliffe analyses reaction to the Government's White Paper on higher education

## Donsdon't take a shine to the gloss

At a press conference to launch the Government White Paper on higher education last week, Mr Kenneth Baker, the Education Secretary, was openly delighted with its glossy cover, expensive paper and colourful graphs.

"Why not, when you have a good message to give?" he asked reporters, sceptical at the sudden demise of the traditional low-cost plain pamphlets it has replaced.

He may have cause to be ungrateful to the somewhat mixed reaction his proposals have received from the education world. While much of it is couched in diplomatic language – welcoming his plans to expand access, but lamenting the lack of cash to pay for it – it is hardly the fulsome praise he might have wished. Only the polytechnic directors have positively welcomed the policy statement.

But he probably expected nothing else. What matters, with a general election in the offing, is that it was generally well-received in the press and looked good on television. The message of expansion – 50,000 extra students by 1990 – got across. The

resources shortfall, in general, did not. As you would expect from Mr Baker, it was a triumph of presentation.

One of the more telling criticisms came from the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals, which described the White Paper's plans for an 8 per cent increase in staying-on rates by 1999 as "too unambitious". The demand from employers was for an annual increase in graduate numbers of 2-5 per cent.

The CVCP also questions how the expansion will square with the Government's expenditure plans, due to cut a further 2.7 per cent – £126 million – off the higher and further education budget during the next three years.

The message coming from the universities, Opposition politicians, the academic unions and the National Union of Students is that, far from expansionist, the White Paper is an attempt to put further pressure on institutions either to reduce costs or to stifle growth.

The argument is a re-run of the dilemma which has faced higher education institutions throughout the

cutbacks of the past seven years. The universities have opted to preserve quality, by protecting the "unit of resource" (money spent per student), while the polytechnics have gone for growth at the expense of lower spending per student.

This argument is central to the Government's reforms – dubbed by the local authorities as "centralization" – of the polytechnics and biggest colleges, which are set to be removed from local democratic control.

Labour and Alliance leaders from the two main local authority associations this week claimed the changes would mean polytechnics would no longer have the political will to resist further cuts.

Mr John Pearman, chair of the Association of Metropolitan Authorities' education committee, said: "Six times during the last few years, the National Advisory Body has had to go to the Government for more money to widen access, and on four occasions we were successful. Without NAB, that money would not have been forthcoming, and there would have been no widening of access."

The local authorities – including some Tories – regard Mr Baker's plans as "nationalization". Mr Pearman goes even further, and has dubbed the proposals "naked asset-stripping".

The scene is thus set for a battle royal over the reforms.

One thing that is worrying polytechnic directors, however – who have generally welcomed the changes which will give them more autonomy – is what will happen to the £70 million or so raised independently by I.E.A.s and used to "top up" college funding.

The White Paper, in a controversial paragraph on the new sector institutions, expects authorities to phase out their "top-up" subsidies before the transfer, expected to take place sometime after September 1988.

Mr Pearman warned that I.E.A.s would review their investment in colleges to be removed from their control. Indeed, they could put money into developing further education colleges, and perhaps tertiary colleges, which could ultimately become third-tier higher education institutes.



Polytechnics: positive welcome

## Open College may offer 50 courses

by Mark Jackson

Up to 50 courses could be offered when the Open College, the television-based system of mass adult training and vocational education, goes on air in September.

The college launched its official prospectus this week with a ministerial fanfare from Lord Young, the Employment Secretary, who predicted that "the magic of broadcasting" would open up a new era of learning in Britain.

Lord Young's belief in magic – and the promise from Mr Michael Green, the DC's chairman, that it would pay its way within three years – have persuaded the Government to authorize the Manpower Services Commission to provide the college with £15 million. Lord Young refused to be drawn about what the Government would do if Mr Green failed to make good his promise. But Mr Green said he would treat the money as a credit line to be drawn on as necessary.

This week's document is largely a promotional publication setting out the college's objectives and style. The real prospectus for the first year's courses is promised for July.

Mr Green said about 30 courses would be offered when broadcasting – an hour a day on Channel 4 – started on September 21. But the college management hopes to buy in existing distance learning courses to add to the 20 or so it has already commissioned.

Basic literacy material has had to be produced from scratch. The college has a lack of suitable distance learning material – despite educational television's involvement in adult literacy campaigns through such programmes as the BBC's *On the Move*.

### Governor training

Most local education authorities will be unable to meet the requirements of the 1986 Education Act for training school governors, a National Consumer Council report says.

A survey of 22 L.E.A.s has concluded that very little significant training of governors is currently being undertaken. That position will continue, unless "very much larger resources" are allocated, says the report.

Only Newham, Calderdale, Knowsley, Cambridgeshire, Northumberland and Somerset of the 22 were awarded education support grants for the work.

Current Provision of Training for School Governors in England and Wales is available from the NCC, 20 Grosvenor Gardens, London SW1V 0DH, price £2.50.

"I never had the answer to anybody's life. I don't have the answer to my own."

BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN

## PEARLS OF WISDOM, SPARKS OF TRUTH, FLASHES OF WIT AND THE LETTER Q

"Pete Townshend's tuning was always perfect except when the neck was hangin' off the guitar."

RON WOOD

"I was in tears. I was completely destroyed. Because I thought, I've done nothing wrong, I've completely changed my behaviour and I'm still back in the nick."

HUGH CORNWELL OF THE STRANGLERS

"I think you come to a point in your life, around when you're thirty, when you look back to the dream you had when you were twenty and you try to assess just where you stand now in relation to that dream."

BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN

"I have this memory of Robbie Coltrane standing on the bar with his head inside a chandelier."

EMMA "KETTLES" THOMPSON (TUTTI FRUTTI)

"The ambition of any sensible modern pop group should be to score fast, split young and leave a good sounding Greatest Hits album."

ON CULTURE CLUB

"They just smashed a few milk bottles over my head. It was horrible. One of these boys was standing over me and said: 'You'd better reform Bronski Beat! And I was going. Tomorrow! I'll do it tomorrow!'"

JIMMY SOMERVILLE OF THE COMMUNARDS

"It's all change down at Snipcock & Tweed. You see literature; they see a UK and Commonwealth Volume Rights Limited Term Licence with TV and film escalators."

ON LITERARY AGENTS

"I get excited staying in all these different hotels... I'm always curious what the wallpaper's gonna be like."

BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN

"It has next to nothing in common with the boy-meets-tractor films which have until now been the staple of Soviet domestic cinema."

ON FAREWELL

"Once again Vietnam is viewed as an episode in American history, rather than America being viewed as an horrific intrusion in Vietnamese history."

ON PLATOON

"When he's being carted off by the police his cries of 'I'm a pervert! Hip, hip, hooray!' have a curious dignity to them."

ON PERSONAL SERVICES

"The singles and albums charts are now as separate as they were in the mid '70s when The Bay City Rollers reigned supreme and Led Zepplin never released a single."

ON THE DECLINE OF THE 45

"Your typical modern Strangler is a card-carrying Reasonable Blake. If it's raining he will carry an umbrella. He will even share it with you."

ON THE STRANGLERS

"Q magazine is the modern guide to music and more. This month's issue is available at your newsagent now."

MARK ELLEN

OVER 100 LP'S REVIEWED AND RATED.





Julia Hagedorn visits the new Japanese school in Milton Keynes which is reorienting its pupils to the Occident

## The children of Father Tagawa

Milton Keynes, which once hosted the first Japanese take-away in Europe, has been chosen over Paris and Rome to play host to the largest Japanese boarding school in Europe. The Catholic Gyosei School will eventually cater for almost 1,000 boys and girls aged 9 to 18, preparing them for the fiercely competitive university entrance back home or for re-joining the equally intensive school system.



Ancient traditions will be fostered despite the emphasis on British culture

thought that the children could be disadvantaged both socially and academically by a spell abroad.

The original Gyosei School was founded in 1881 for diplomats' children, so the Catholic foundation has a long tradition. However, despite the presence of 18 Japanese companies in Milton Keynes, so far none of their employees has children in the school. Of the 280 pupils starting lessons last week in the £16.4 million school, 120 had been flown straight from Japan - many from the sister school.

The principal of the International Gyosei foundation, Father Tagawa, was not surprised. English was an extremely important language for the Japanese, he said, and many parents could now afford to send their children abroad to a school where they learned to speak it fluently.

The fees of £6,000 a year are expected to be the same as those at the International Gyosei School in Japan, but this financial burden will be lightened by the practice of doubling employees' salaries when they are posted abroad.

As well as 8 to 10 hours of spoken English each week, the school has ambitious plans to give pupils an insight into British culture. "We don't want a little Japanese island," Mr David Stabler, of the Milton Keynes Development Corporation, said. He has run seminars for local schools which have been well-received and plans to arrange debating, music and



Sayonara: a younger sister takes her leave of one of the boy boarders

sports fixtures for the school and community. The international-standard athletics track that the school has built in return for its prime lakeside site will ensure that the community will be paying a visit.

The curriculum, approved by the Japanese Ministry of Education, will include class activities on the ancient arts of tea making and flower arranging, kendo and judo. And, although only about 18 per cent of the pupils are Catholic, there will be an obligatory hour a week of religious instruction as well as attendance at a Catholic mass in Milton Keynes. The headteacher, Mr Masaki Nobue, is a Buddhist.

The school's low-rise red and brown buildings and pine furnishings are reminiscent of Buckinghamshire open-plan primary schools at their best, but a pagoda and tea house lie at the centre of formal Japanese gardens around which the teaching and living quarters are built.

The girls' and boys' dormitories are furnished with neat bunk beds and pine tables. And the Japanese bath house at the end of each corridor

provides a civilized alternative to the English cold shower.

The staff recruited in Japan will be paid about twice as much as their English counterparts. But this did not seem to worry Mr David Whitmore, recruited from a London school by an advertisement in *The TES*. He was happy, he said, to escape from the capital, and he'd always been interested in Japanese culture.

The school year runs from the beginning of April to the end of July, by which time the pupils will be familiar with a régime which includes breakfast at 6.30 and 25 minutes cleaning before the first lesson at 7.30. Dinner is at 6pm after another five lessons, then more cleaning, and homework from 7pm until bedtime at 10.15.

But most of the 15-year-olds were still too excited by their new surroundings, the greenness of the Milton Keynes countryside and the company of their friends to be daunted by the timetable.

Their only complaint was the food: it was English and there was not enough of it.

Misgivings about committee of inquiry into English was evident at last week's International One Convention. David's reports

## Dumbstruck over English language

The man who will write the report for the Kingman Committee of Inquiry into English Language Teaching is philosophical about his already unpopular role.

"Wherever I go, nobody was like me," Mr Peter Gannon, Inspector and secretary of the report, told the International One Convention, held last week at the University of East Anglia.

The 300 delegates might have assumed to be preoccupied with new compulsory oral communication component of GCSE English as they were cheered when Mr De Frater, the Staff Inspector for English, spoke of setting up a National Project, costing £1.5 million over years, and of special educational port grants for oracy being awarded seven education authorities.

But the inquiry hovered like a cloud over the chilly Norwich, with the promise (made by attendees) of a national curriculum, attendant fears as to who would

Of all the speakers at the convention, only Mr Gannon was silent. His message was not a conundrum when he outlined the report of English as a subject and expressed regret that what happened at English classroom existed for its sake: "The means have often been the end."

Mr Gannon concluded by saying: "Might it not be that the essential of the English teacher are to levels of performance to enable to make use of their linguistic skills and to prepare them for the urgent demands of life after school?"

The mute response to this question was anticipated, as the largest of his audience, he said, "was aligned with the National Association of the Teachers of English" - to who would see English as being concerned primarily with personal growth, individual response, and wish to cherish children's own language.

Many contributions to the convention confirmed Mr Gannon's impression, including that of Paul Andrew Wilkinson, who convened the meeting. He spoke of the need to develop more than linguistic skills, but about "language across the curriculum". Rather, it should be referred to "thinking and learning across the curriculum", he said.

## Think tank pans move to industry-led curriculum

Current moves to shape the curriculum to employers' specifications are strongly challenged in a report published by the National Economic Development Office this week. It warns educators that they must not rely on industry's view of the future.

The document, from the Economic Development Committee for Information Technology, echoes the message of earlier NEDO reports that Britain lags perilously behind other industrial countries in the education and training of its workforce. It says that education and training are "massively under-resourced and dangerously under-vested" for the needs of the economy and of future society.

The report, prepared by the committee's long-term perspectives group and drawing on wide-ranging studies and consultations with industrial experts, academics and other groups including sixth-formers, sets out to identify the kind of education and training needed to produce a "skill force" able to exploit the full potential of technology in the year 2000.

It concludes that the key requirement will be for individuals who have learned how to learn fast, so that they can switch from job to job, quickly mastering the required skills.

While the group asserts that an education and examinations system based on traditional educational values such as academic rigour, narrow specialism, and emphasis on the acquisition of abstract knowledge cannot meet this need, it questions the value of some of the current attempts to reform the education and training systems.

The report, which implies that teachers may be better judges than employers of what young people should be taught, suggests they should concentrate on teaching how skills are acquired.

"Those who learn how to learn will adapt," it says, adding that "in contrast to many writing today, we have identified positive, exciting, and relevant changes taking place here, with a profession engaged in coping as well as in innovation."

The report praises Britain's primary education and early secondary teaching methods for stressing practical, investigative and problem-solving work, often through teams engaged in a cross-disciplinary project. "Children so equipped will find it easier to adapt to a changing world and ride the 'third wave'; they will be able to explore and enjoy to the limits of their appetite the information-rich society of the future," it claims.

But the document calls the value system which has dominated the later secondary curriculum pernicious and says that nobody should blame the switched-off majority of pupils or their teachers for their under-achievement. The group welcomes both the introduction of the GCSE and the Technical and Vocational Education Initiative and says that it is important to improve links between schools and the working world.

But it is critical of the educationists who told it that they wanted commerce and industry to identify for them the occupations which will emerge towards the end of the century and relate these to the education system.

"The suggestion was that it was up to business to provide the vision that can be translated into specific curricula. We do not regard this as a practical or desirable means for planning education."

The report points out that attempts to balance supply and demand for particular occupations have not noticeably failed in the past, and that the timescale of normal business forecasting, two or three years at best, does not match that of educational planning.

In higher education, the group suggests that science and engineering should not be expanded at the cost of arts places.

"There is nothing in economic theory that suggests we must match our competitors in each area of skills

mix. In our view of the future, Britain may have to capitalize upon originality, artistic creativity, design flair, and professional expertise as much as our technical prowess." It points out that Britain already has a higher proportion of its university students taking science than most nations, and argues that the real need is to expand total higher education provision and switch the emphasis from pure to applied studies in both science and the arts.

In a proposal which appears closely to resemble the voucher schemes for school education put forward by right-wing groups, the report suggests that part of the massive national investment in training which it calls for should be in the form of an entitlement for all 16-year-olds to a term of education or training of a fixed value at any establishment they choose.

The value could be topped up by parental contributions, or through

loans or grants if it were thought desirable.

Business firms would be encouraged to market their training facilities to the youngsters, as would local authorities, trade unions, and government departments as well as educational institutions. The group says that this means that firms would come to see training as a revenue-earner rather than a cost.

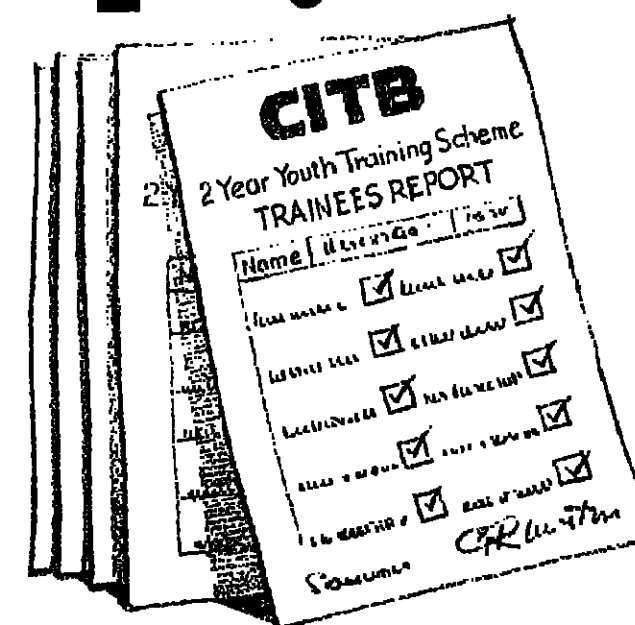
Disputing the reality of current exhortations to employers to regard training as an investment (a view put forcefully by the Employment Secretary only this week) the groups say grimly: "If it were true that training pays and if it were in the interests of all employers as well as the nation's interest, we would not be in today's predicament."

*IT Futures... IT Can Work* is available from HMSO, PO Box 276, London SW8 5DT, price £20.00 net.



Very model of modern general education: primary level problem-solving

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Send to: Stan Robertson, Senior Careers Officer, The Construction Industry Training Board, Bircham Newton, Nr King's Lynn, Norfolk. PE31 6RH. Tel: 0553 776677

Edited by Mark Jackson

## Phone system breaks down

Lack of access to a telephone will deny places to students who apply through the universities and polytechnics' clearing system, it is claimed.

One student last year spent £120 on telephone calls in a week in an effort to get a place, according to Mr Brian Heap, author of a guide to degree course offers, published this week.

Mr Heap, head of careers guidance at Hutton grammar school in Preston, Lancashire, claims the clearing system — which comes into effect after A levels are published every August — has collapsed.

The system is intended to allow applicants, who failed to get a place on their preferred course, the chance to take up unfilled places on other courses.

Mr Heap says fewer places are now allocated through clearing because institutions prefer to fill places quickly from telephone inquiries.

*Degree Course Offers*, is published by Career Consultants Ltd, 12-14 Hill Rise, Richmond, Surrey TW10 6UA, price £9.95.

## Hungarian method raises hopes for handicapped

by Sue Surkes

The lives of large numbers of handicapped people in the UK will be revolutionized if the success of conductive education reported from Hungary can be reproduced here, a conference was told last weekend.

But the task of transferring a complex educational system from one country to another, developing the right organization and training and adapting it to the UK will be huge, Mr Andrew Sutton, director of the Birmingham-based Foundation for Conductive Education, said.

Mr Sutton was addressing a Coventry audience of more than 300 mainly motor-disordered people and the families of those with motor problems, at the first annual conference of RACE - Rapid Action for Conductive Education, a pressure group set up last year.

The keynote speaker was Dr Maria Harl, director of the Peto Institute for Conductive Education in Budapest, who has pioneered this controversial

form of special education designed to give those with motor disorders a degree of control over their movements.

Dr Harl's attendance served to underline the strength of an agreement signed last month by the Peto Institute and the Foundation to establish conductive education in the UK.

An institute is to be set up in Birmingham later this year to train the UK's first conductors, establish a group of children and adults needing help and begin research into issues such as the method's suitability for people with different conditions and its financial implications.

Mr Aleks Jedrosz, chair of the London branch of RACE whose severely brain-injured three-year-old son, Andrew, is currently receiving help in Hungary, said: "The thing that is so overpowering about the Peto Institute is that it is such a positive place and has such high expectations."

## Women no nearer to top rung of career ladder

by Diane Spencer

The scarcity of women in top jobs is "an appalling failure of the education system", Mrs Pauline Perry, director of South Bank Polytechnic, told a conference in Manchester this week.

Mrs Perry, the country's only woman polytechnic head, said: "I always assumed that my generation had done all the hard fighting and it would be better for the next. But society hasn't moved at all; there are no better support structures for women."

She was addressing a conference organized by Manchester Polytechnic's Centre for Educational Development and Training on implementing equal opportunities for women in further and higher education.

Department of Education statistics on further and higher education were "extremely deceptive", according to Mrs Perry, who was a chief HM1 before joining South Bank last January.

According to the figures, 6 per cent of principals were women - 36 out of 645. But closer examination shows that most were in charge of low youth or welfare centres.

Only four were at the top of local institutions.

Practical reason frequently prevented women from getting promotion, she claimed. "I know that unpopular with some feminists, but work don't exist, but for the majority of women this is a reality."

Schools had an important role in creating self-confidence in girls, she queried the "enormous discrepancy" in subject preferences and marks which appeared after a few years schooling.

At South Bank she had desperately wanted at least one woman for senior posts in a recent round of appointments, but only 20 out of 200 applicants were women.







## LETTERS

# Careers service users are denied what they need

Sir - I read David Peck's article (TES, March 27) with great interest. However, I would like to present some of my own observations.

The concept of the "honest broker" without institutional loyalties is unrealistic. Careers staff, like many others in the public sector, are continually under pressure to meet the needs of groups other than young people.

We have to maintain occupancy levels on the Youth Training Scheme, meet Christmas guarantee targets, market Certificate of Pre-Vocational Education courses, encourage new further education provision, and the like.

This "uniquely disinterested" position is a simplification of the basic realities.

His notion of the advocate "guarding the contract" again seems Utopian.

What sort of "advocacy" relationship can the careers service develop when staff have caseloads numbering hundreds, compared with other "professionals" who deal individually with adolescents within much

more manageable caseloads and territories?

Furthermore, is a careers officer professionally qualified to question the aims and objectives of course tutors, YTS managers, and teachers?

I endorse the view that our work is "profoundly educational".

But, since the late 1970s, the service has had to survive with the psychological pressure from educational cut-backs, central government priorities, criticism from industry, and the major goals of YTS.

Many of these challenges have been met. But at what cost? In areas of high unemployment, we are perceived as a YTS clearing house.

Client-centred? Our clients are not being allowed to use our services as they should.

In reality, the careers service is the one that is being used.

DAVID COOMBS

District careers officer  
Merthyr Tydfil Technical College  
Ysnyfach  
Merthyr Tydfil  
Mid-Glamorgan



Face values: concept of the "honest broker" without institutional loyalties is "unrealistic"

## Split loyalties

Sir - David Peck asked whether the local education authority careers officer was "advocate, broker or marketing man."

I suspect that few who come into contact with the careers service realize what a very odd little thing it is - personal prejudice aside. It lives with the I.E.A.s who look to the Department of Education and Science, but it is governed in its duties and powers by the Department of Employment.

In theory, that dual responsibility might seem a sensible arrangement to bridge education and employment - a brainchild of loving parents.

In practice, the careers service has

suffered the results of considerable parental estrangement and no one really knows if the new stepfather, the Manpower Services Commission, will unite or bust apart the family. Can she really bring mother and father together for ever? Was this ever a marriage of true minds?

Will they stay together for the sake of the children? Will either parent ever allow little Careers Service to grow up to become an independent advocate - to choose his own career? Or will father want a marketing man and mother need a broker?

T.G. COLLINS  
123 The Midlands  
Holt  
Trowbridge  
Wiltshire

## Hidden: a gender

Sir - The article on the role of officers "Advocate, broker or marketing man?" (TES, March 27, illustrated by three pictures - men).

I have a suspicion you may be overwhelmed by a barrage of letters from women in the service, who make up a significant proportion of officers and who make a significant contribution to the Why is it that they seem to be gotten?

DAVID ALLAN  
Careers officer (Information)  
Leicester

## Good relations

Sir - Generalizing from the particular is common in certain styles of journalism; it is not to be expected in an article from a professional colleague.

Anne Krissman in "Growing together" (TES, March 13) acknowledges the particularly limited nature of her youth work experience - then makes sweeping comparative generalizations about relationships in schools and youth clubs. To have found a youth club having "chummy time" may have been quite an achievement - it does tend to suggest that her experience was not typical.

The tools of youth work are not the suggested table tennis bat, disco and coffee bar, but relationships. Relationships are the essential element in the process of social education in which youth workers are involved. The transition from childhood to adult-

hood requires the opportunity to experiment with a variety of relationships in a wide range of settings. The success of the process often depends on the skill and sensitivity of the staff (full-time, part-time or voluntary) in aiding the interpretation of the experience. Of course youth work does not have a monopoly in the field of adolescence: the educational process is a continuous interplay between home, institutions (school and youth club) and community.

Freedom of speech may allow for "unsavoury sexist remarks"; it also allows for intervention and challenge. Up and down the country, night after night, informal learning is being created out of such situations.

CHRIS TOMSETT  
Chairperson  
National Association of Youth and Community Education Officers  
Sandy  
Bedfordshire

## Parents' lobby

Sir - To say that I was less than happy about Jeremy Sutcliffe's report (TES, March 27) on the national lobby of Parliament would be an understatement.

As one of the organizers of the event, I suppose I should be overjoyed that at least one member of the press stayed on for the later speeches. However, if Mr Sutcliffe had listened objectively, he would have noticed that the main point was to provide a platform for parents - and not politicians.

Parents from as near as Putney or Chiswick met parents from as far away as Southampton or Shotton and discovered that they had something in common - a deplorable lack of resources for basic educational essentials. Perhaps Mr Sutcliffe missed the plea from the Dorset lady for a redistribution of funds to the shire counties, and perhaps he was out of the room when the representative from Harrow emphatically spelt out a similar message from within the urban environment.

Mr Sutcliffe's brief report dwelt on his own imagined machinations by the organizers to play some sort of machievellian political game. In fact the truth is much more prosaic. We had carefully drawn up a balanced programme of speakers only to have it disrupted at the eleventh hour by Government intervention in the form of a suddenly convened education debate at 3.30pm, exactly the time that our speakers were due to take the one rally. So we were really rather pleased that he turned up at all.

As for the number of people in the hall, we never expected it to be full all the time. MPs were being lobbied at the House of Commons and this was a very time-consuming occupation. I was still at the House after 6pm, along with others who had been waiting for their MPs.

For the record, about 30 MPs were actually met and a number of others were sought by constituents without success. Because we had to leave Central Hall by 5pm, we were obliged to cut speakers short towards the end. Even so, we had a number of reports back from parents who had spoken to their MPs that afternoon.

Representatives of the press were in attendance all afternoon and many were still around to take photos (TES included) and report on the delivery of the parents' manifesto to 10 Downing Street.

I think Mr Sutcliffe should consider the day a profound success. Considering that parents have very real problems now that the teachers have started their new action, it was terrific to have our visitors' book signed by even small delegations from hundreds of miles away and larger parties from all over the London area.

Perhaps his March 20 article about the real advances in parent power should now be followed by a series about the parents' new-found influence on politicians who, until very recently, just did not want to hear from this important group of voters.

MARTIN REDSTON  
All London Parents' Action Group  
23 Alverston Road  
London NW2

## Breaking silence

Sir - Voluntary Organizations Communication and Language are to be congratulated for their recent report on speech therapy services, in which they point out that tens of thousands of children with speech and language disorders are being denied the help of speech therapists.

The following example of appalling neglect in Cwylid qualifies for the VOCAL report. Twenty special needs children suffering from speech and language disorders who attend the partial hearing units at Wrexham Borras Park CP infants and junior schools were receiving the totally inadequate provision of only half a day's therapy per week.

Now that help has come to a halt and the children have received no speech therapy since Christmas, because their therapists left to go abroad, and the Cwylid Health Authority has so far been unable to recruit a replacement.

A rapid solution to this tragic situation must be found. I believe it should be made a legally binding responsibility for either the health or education authorities to provide speech therapy. The present situation in which children fall between the two has proved itself comprehensively useless.

The Government should stop taking advantage of a dedicated and predominantly female profession and pay it a decent salary for the job. A speech therapist after four years of training and a degree starts on £5,096 per year. Four stages on, the salary is £7,056.

There is so much unnecessary suffering with our most disadvantaged children that this is a crying shame.

KEN MACK  
Clwyd Campaign for Improved Speech Therapy and Physiotherapy Provision for Special Needs Children  
19 Craithie Place  
Wrexham, Clwyd

## Crossed lines

Sir - It is to be hoped that optimistic report of firms' success in maths and science studies (TES, March 27) will be followed by reports on their careers. It is cynical to suggest that only the altruistic will still be teaching a few years, but how can it be otherwise?

My daughter served her year as a reception class teacher in a large primary school, and shared a house with young graduates who worked for "good graduate" increments, at half their salary, but they had the best of both worlds including flexibility.

The biggest bonus of all was the end of the day they had to work! Not for them the end-of-year and planning of primary school teachers - their spare time was their own. We reluctantly came to the conclusion that England was a telephone twice as much as in Sweden.

C.S. THORNE  
124 Dovecote Avenue  
Long Eaton, Nottinghamshire

## Direct mailing

Sir - As teachers are no longer in contact with the Department of Education and Science via any one way to make contact is by direct mailing. I have written to the York Road, SE1 7PH on a weekly basis until our rights are reinstated.

I hope that thousands will be doing so!

VALERIE WHITAKER  
Myrtle Cottage  
Sulgrave Road, Banbury

## Courses

### SAFETY AWARENESS COURSE FOR TEACHERS AND YOUTH LEADERS

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## Moor inspiration

Sir - What a sorry tale Linda Hall (Talkback, March 27) tells of her experience in higher education as an interviewer for English literature students. It was positively spine-chilling to read the same responses to her queries on "set" texts and their own private reading.

I would hazard a guess, though, that those poor responses may be due in part to the still prevailing attitudes of some examination boards towards A level English literature examinations: learn the texts; choose one question from two; write on four texts in three hours.

With such restrictions from the boards, teachers have often had to fall into the trap of teaching what they think the boards want in terms of examination answers, essay styles, stock responses and often - I have to agree - little appreciation for English literature writ large.

However, I have also to say that this has not been my experience with students when teaching an A level course that encourages candidates to complete coursework as part of their examination; has some form of open or long study; and, where there is a timed exam element, students have access to the texts they have studied.

Candidates under these conditions feel free to discover for themselves, as well as with their teacher, how literature "works". A course that also allows the school to nominate its own choice of coursework texts also allows for students' enthusiasms.

An A level biased towards coursework encourages the wider reading so sought after by Linda Hall. It also allows students to develop, understand and enjoy their work. It gives teachers a very real and rewarding part in the assessment and structuring of A level courses.

Lastly, it won't hurt A level boards to note that the way GCSE literature

can be taught using 100 per cent coursework, with personal and critical response, heralds the way to a more expansive approach to A level. Perhaps in the not too distant future we can all go to Haworth and look for Heathcliff as a legitimate part of our course.

ROB KENDALL  
4 Melville Road  
Plymouth  
London SE22

## Minus for maths

Sir - I am writing to express my outrage at Linda Hall's article.

As a sixth-former preparing to take both A and S level English literature, I feel obliged to point out that colleges of higher education do actually select their interviewees and perhaps, therefore, are to be blamed if candidates do not meet the required standard.

I applied to five universities through UCAS this year and was interviewed by only one, Oxford, whose entrance exams I had to pass first. Despite doing this, I was not considered capable enough for consideration by UCL, King's College, London, Manchester, and Kent. I could present opinions on *Lord of the Flies*, *King Lear* and lots of other things besides, but was not given the opportunity, presumably because - heaven forbid - one of my other A level subjects was maths.

If lecturers such as Ms Hall want better interviewees, then perhaps they should show a more flexible attitude when considering candidates' applications. If they wish to distribute blame for student ignorance, they should look no further than those purporting to be teaching the subject.

KEVIN ASHTON  
St Austell Sixth-Form College  
Cornwall

## Latin for all

Sir - It is certainly true that there are difficulties throughout the country in continuing to provide for those pupils who wish to study Latin. The reasons for the decline in popularity of this subject are complex, but few would dispute that the change in university entrance policies was more significant than any change in school organization.

It is easier to respond to the concerns about the provision in Islington (TES, March 27). Last year, two pupils from Highbury Grove school were entered for A level Latin out of a total number of entrants throughout the Inner London Education Authority of 27 pupils. As part of the authority's tertiary college proposals for Islington, there is a commitment to protect and promote not only the study of Latin but other classical subjects, for example Greek, ancient history and classical civilization. The intended arrangements are well beyond the capacity of any existing secondary school in Inner London.

In addition, the authority intends to appoint teachers in these and other minority subject areas who would work both in 11 to 16 schools and the tertiary college. This, I hope, places in context the remarks of those who would wish to see the continuation of the existing unsatisfactory arrangements.

WILLIAM STUBBS  
Education officer  
Inner London Education Authority  
The County Hall  
London SE1

## Mother load

Sir - The proposal that all schools should keep continental hours is a blow against working mothers by the male-dominated National Association of Head Teachers.

It has failed to notice that, in other European countries, shops and offices also begin their day earlier. Statistics show that, in the majority of families where both parents work, it is still the women who have responsibility for the children and try to find employment where the working day is compatible with the school day.

After-school childcare is not as easy to find as the NAHT would have us believe. Its proposal means that vandalism will be shifted from the playgrounds (its responsibility) to the streets (not its responsibility).

Although my own children have been totally unaffected by the events of the last two years, I have no doubt that any reassurances that after-school extra-curricular activities will keep children off the streets during afternoons will be greeted with scepticism by many parents.

JANE F. SOUTHERN  
Moonraker House  
35 Naxington Road  
Canterbury  
Kent

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Education



**Jim Smith**

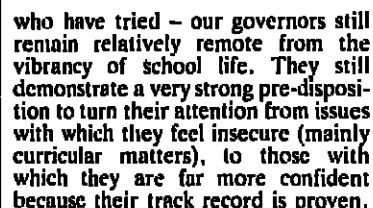
The item on the governors' agenda was the 1986 Education Act and they were far from inspired. Come the summer term, like it or not the governing body must hold an open meeting to which all parents will be invited. Prior to that meeting they must have delivered their annual report to those same parents.

Try as they might – and I do hope that I have given full credit to those

## Kevin Morris

"What do you read for pleasure?", is like asking "What are your hobbies?" when, in 1987, many pupils and stu-

It seems to me far more valuable when interviewing a candidate for a BA English degree to be asked to *write*; not to judge whether or not he or she can write well or to test whether



A meeting will turn with alacrity from a discussion on sex education to an agenda item concerning the state of the school buildings. I'm sure that my governors are not alone in being "turned on" by such matters as leaking windows, shabby paintwork, tattered curtains and the school coach-park. Indeed on issues concerned with the

**Geoff Veasey**

I accept that much popular music is commercially produced, geared to maximum profit for minimum effort. It is inevitable that most of it will be transitory and lightweight. What cannot accept is that the entire genre should be dismissed as trivial music, wallpaper for the eyes and the ears.

*Jim Smith is headmaster of  
tonshire School, Northallerton  
Yorkshire.*

**The remarkable results of infant teachers doing everything they are not supposed to**

In a class of 32, Mrs. Dorr said that she had talked with children who were having any difficulty with their reading or writing; and four of these children were from other schools. By the end of the second year, she said, the average child will be reading fluently — from picture books of reading schemes and story books — and will be writing independently with ease and confidence.



**Julia Hagedorn**

**Sound Start**, a pre-reading phonic kit, has been prepared by Mrs Lloyd for teachers who may be interested in following up her ideas. More information from here at 19 Fleet Dyke Drive, Oulton Broad, Lowestoft, Suffolk NR33 9HB.

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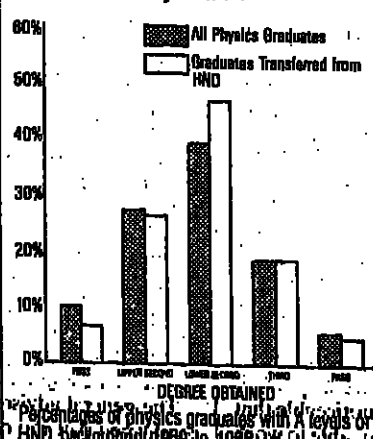
**Time Off Ltd.,**  
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## Bryn Like

The histogram shows that the quality of the degrees they gained was as good as those achieved by the A level qualified undergraduates.

For these students the second chance route via HND was effective but one wonders how many equally capable students have been discouraged from proceeding to higher education by their A level results.

Degree Obtained	All Physics Graduates (%)	Graduates Transferred from WFO (%)
None	10	6
Liberal Arts	27	26
Science	38	45
Business	18	18
Other	4	4



I WANDERED  
LONELY AS  
A CLOUD  
BABY YEH

Children tend to sit up and music is familiar. When they read aloud, or pointed at an overhead projector, their heads are heightened. Perhaps most importantly, children can see that teachers are not trapped in a warp, and are prepared to step on a part of their culture. It is out of place in school. It preaches broad-mindedness. It approaches to understanding. It demonstrates it as practicing.

Geoff Veasey is deputy head of End Junior School, Coverham. Teaching Poetry in the School. An HME View. HME 21/9/87, pp. 30.



## FEATURES



## I said 'hands up'

Michael McManus looks for clues to more effective discussion but finds that, even in the early years, children are cowed by the demands of their teachers

Teacher-organized discussions in secondary classrooms have more to do with keeping control and managing social relationships than with pupils' learning. Teachers ask questions to which they know the answers, determine who will speak, evaluate contributions publicly, and generally dominate the pace, structure and direction of the discourse.

Douglas Barnes and Frank Todd (in *Communication and Learning in Small Groups*) found that, when pupils were left to discuss problems without a teacher present, the quality of their thinking and understanding improved. Where the discussions failed, it was sometimes because the competitive atmosphere of the classroom intruded.

An in-service diploma student of mine has recorded her attempts to involve four children in analytical discussion of maths problems. Despite the relaxed and friendly atmosphere the pupils repeatedly seek to be first to guess the right answer or identify the mechanical rule that will give a quick solution. Ann Haslem gave the pupils two mileage readings and asked them how many miles the car had travelled:

Joe: Times  
Mary: Take away  
Hazel: Divide... plus  
Joe: Six  
Mary: 160... five  
Lee: 166 me  
Hazel: Five  
Joe: First time he got 216  
Hazel: Lee, you wally.

Wrong answers are punished. The presence of the teacher, however neutral and non-judgemental, seems to eclipse the pupils' trust in thought. They focus on pleasing the teacher. Teachers like right answers - do they not always say "good" when they are given one?

One pupil asked for a calculator.  
Teacher: We're not using calculators.  
Pupil: Common sense? I hate common sense, me.  
This is surely an unintended and unwanted outcome. To hate one's common sense is to accept subordination.

My observations in playgroups and nursery and reception classes over the past year suggest that much of what Barnes and Todd have found in secondary schools is present in almost fully developed form from the start. Even in the playgroup the day is structured by the teacher: "Right, it's table toys time."

"Right, now it's news time."  
"It's nearly milk and biscuits time."  
The children also had to play appropriately. To a boy pushing a plastic block along the floor with his foot: "Harry, they're not for kicking, they're for building." To a girl who is lifting and dropping a box lid: "We don't want that, Jasper. We don't want to play with that."

During news time the children had to conform to the teacher's structure in order to present their news. They were called out to the front as the rest were "shushed" - a minor ordeal that wiped some of their minds blank. No one was asked to contribute from their position on the mat.

When asked, the teacher explained her rule in terms of keeping the groups attention. Similar reasons are advanced for the familiar rule in secondary school classrooms: "I didn't say speak, I said hands up."

In the time, regularly allocated to free play, there was a marked difference between the conversation in groups without a teacher/adult

and that in those with one. A playgroup of 20 to 25 children will have three or four adults. Left to themselves the children usually play in groups of two or three. In the groups with an adult we typically hear such questions as: What colour is this? How many will fit in there? What is this called? If the children do not respond the adult supplies the answer, sometimes after further questions.

Some of the groups without an adult are concerned with cognitively higher level processes. Two boys are playing with large plastic blocks:

Tim: I'm making a rocket  
Kenny: I'm making a rocket  
Tim: Mine's a big rocket, big as me.  
Kenny: My dad's big, that's not... you're bigger than that, look. (Puts one hand on Tim and one hand on the pile of blocks).  
Tim: Not big. Get some more on.  
Kenny: Get some more on, put some more on. (They do)  
Tim: It's big now.  
Kenny: It's not big yet. Oh it's going to be massive, I think. Oof.

The project was terminated by a child on a bike who demolished the tower. These children were engaged in valuable learning. They were expanding their knowledge by operating at their chosen pace and level on a problem they had set for themselves. More importantly, perhaps, they were cooperating to solve the problem together rather than competing to see who could be first to the right answer.

In a reception class I witnessed a lesson on the same theme. The children had cut out full size shapes of themselves and been set to measure the shapes using hand spans. Having counted and failed to agree on the same number for each shape, some of the children were trying to explain the discrepancy by comparing their hands. The discussion was cut short by the teacher who called them to her.

Teacher: What do we call these things we have been doing?  
Pupils: (No response)  
Teacher: What do we call all these different ways of measuring... when you did that? (She holds out her hand)  
Pupil: Twist hands.  
Teacher: Well, we call them units. Units. Let's write units in our books.

In this case the effect of the teacher's intervention was similar to that of the playgroup child on the bike. The problem solving was replaced by a teacher-dominated game of "guess the hand span". The sheer busyness of the classroom compelled

the teacher to take short cuts: 30 children needing to have something done, something to show, to take home, to put on the wall. It is so much easier for our colleagues and others to assess products. Processes and skills are part of the rhetoric; when it comes to the crunch, the goods have got to be on the table.

In the playgroups the most obviously valuable discussions took place in the absence of direct adult influence. Two children are looking at each other through binoculars made by sticking toilet rolls together. Each child has cellophane, of one colour or another, stuck over the end.

Philip: Mine's blue  
Ranna: Mine's blue  
Philip: You're green  
Ranna: You're blue. Am I blue?  
Philip: No you're red, you're green. You're green, you're under the sea.  
Philip: You're blue. Look at me. I'm green. Am I green?

This pair were learning to take the view of the other - a task young children are supposed to find difficult. It is not difficult to imagine a Piaget-style experiment or lesson using these toys which would discover that the children could not step into each other's shoes in this way. The children would instead occupy themselves in trying to guess what the teacher really wanted.

Significantly, and depressingly, when one of the children noticed I was watching he brought his binoculars to me, pointed to a word on them and said: What does this say? I would much rather have had a look through them but he, three years old, knew what sort of questions adults liked.

Young children are especially vulnerable to adult influence. Their pleasantness and co-operation can be taken for granted most of the time. They willingly accept adult rules and information. "You can't go in there," I was told as I made for a quiet corner from which to observe. "We're not allowed in there until house time."

The children taught each other the rules and thereby brought teacher influence to bear even when teacher was elsewhere. Three children are playing in the shop which has various coloured paper packages which dimly resemble fruit and vegetables:

Helen: (Holding a green cylindrical parcel) A present. A present. That's a present. Do you want a present?  
Bobby: That's a marrow.  
Helen: (No response)  
Bobby: You eat marrows  
Helen: Sparrow.  
Bobby: No a marrow.  
Helen: (Pause) Do you want to buy a marrow?

These examples show that many of the rules of secondary school classroom discourse can be

found in supposedly less structured play and early classes. When adults talk to children they shape and constrain the children's processes in ways not always beneficial. Attempts to engage children in solving problems are easily thwarted by the children's attempts to supply what they have learned the adult expects.

Perhaps it is an inevitable consequence of the need to impart information - of being rather than bad teaching. Perhaps the response is inevitable given the pervasive adult authority and the child's ready acceptance of adult rights in the matter of evaluation and judgement.

I began observing education in the early 1980s expecting to find clues as to how teachers dry school teachers might make better their classroom discourse. I hoped to show them how to avoid the direct question and answer format that depends heavily on teacher control, is so disruptive. Indeed, its frequently tedious supplies the incentive to provide language light relief. I did not expect to find a similar structure where one adult is engaged no more than four children.

The most valuable learning experiences when the teacher, in Bernstein's words, "is the context which the child is engaged in rearrange and explore". For example, the group children had been helped in the construction of the toilet roll binoculars and they play as they pleased. Some turned the play into an exercise in self/other perception. Others how colours blend and change by lots of different coloured objects.

There is a whole world of difference between setting the context and setting a problem - tempting to wonder what would have happened if the teacher had said, "Find two colours that green and two colours that make orange" doubt the children would have stepped into the guess-the-answer mode and realised would have been lost.

This is not to say that problems should be posed: timing is of the essence. Problems follow exploration and play, not precede it.

Perhaps we also need to limit our authority. In matters of fact - whether the wall is red or not red - it is appropriate. But play with a plastic block or a box lid are matters to be negotiated on more equal terms.

Philosophers of education are more in favour in our present instrumentalist climate. Sixty years ago Alfred Whitehead wrote of the evil of barren knowledge and its power to enslave the mind.

"The importance of knowledge lies in its use in our active mastery of it - that is to say, lies in wisdom. The habit of active thought, with freshness, can only be generated by adequate freedom."

Children cannot learn how to enjoy learning if they are not actively engaged in their learning. Their own pace. Objectives and teaching packages are peripheral to real learning. And norm-referenced benchmarks of achievement have as much to do with real education as plaster ducks have to do with flying.

Michael McManus teaches at Woodside School, Leeds. He is currently working on a book about the relationship between the language of the classroom and the language of the street.

## FEATURES

## Structural failure

Kenneth Baker's 'new deal' falls down when applied to a real school, Alan Leech finds



whether they fulfil the criteria of additional responsibility, shortage subject, outstanding classroom performance, or not - since they merely move sideways onto the new structure.

To compensate for the structural demolition of 17 scale twos who join the 18 scale ones on the basic scale, I calculate the school (an average sized secondary) will receive three £500 incentive payments from October of this year. This figure of three incentives is arrived at by dividing the number of these payments Mr Baker says will exist in October - 11,000 - by the number of secondary schools in the country - some 4,000. So from the 35 basic scale teachers it will be necessary for the local authority to determine which three fulfil the criteria that have been laid down.

If we define maths and science as shortage subjects then 11 of these basic scale teachers fall into that category. If we were to add languages, religious education and CDT, then the number

risers to 17. So to which of these does the three incentive payments apply?

Looking at additional responsibilities does not help either. At least four of the new group of basic scale teachers are heads of subject area.

Are we helped any more clearly by the criteria "Outstanding classroom performance"? No, since the majority of the 35 are in fact outstanding classroom performers. They teach between 34 and 36 lessons out of the 40 periods that make up the timetable week. Some teach up to 300 children per week. All are qualified teachers and some 32 of them are graduates, so how is it to be decided which three will receive an incentive payment from October?

Over time the situation concerning the £500 allowances does become marginally better in that by September 1990 the school can expect to have a total of some seven or maybe eight of them. The position of the new £2,000 and £4,200 incentives is equally shrouded in inexactitude.

The £2,000 allowance does not apply until September 1988, and then a school of this size might expect to receive two of these incentives.

They will need to go to former scale three holders (this can be deduced from Mr Baker's proposals which show that the number of former scale three are to decline at the same time as the new £2,000 allowance is introduced).

Once again how are the recipients to be identified? All 12 existing scale three are outstanding classroom performers, and all take on additional responsibilities as heads of subject departments, and six teach shortage subjects.

The new £4,200 allowance does not apply since the school has no senior teachers, however it may apply from September 1988 since there is to be a national increase in this incentive payment by then.

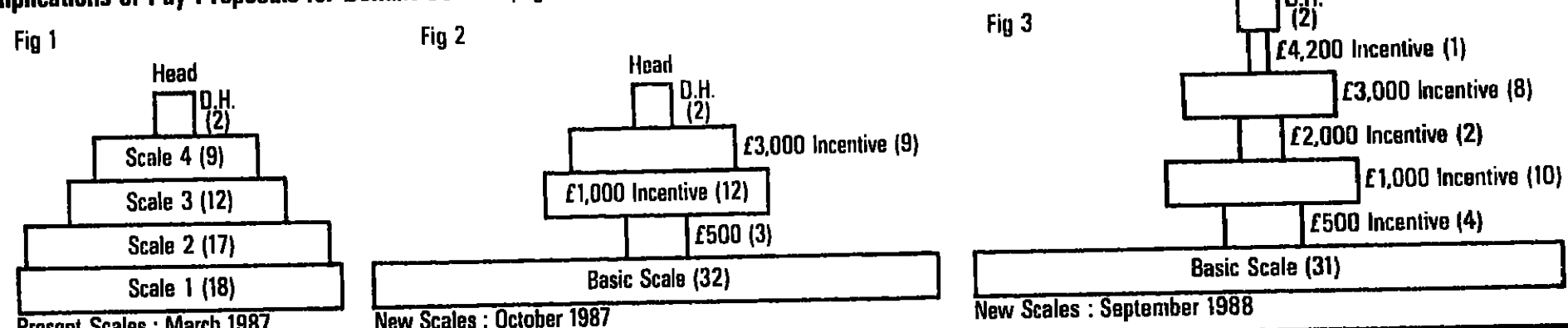
The task of those of us left to manage this new staff structure will be considerable. Education officers, heads and teachers alike, must all be wondering how the criteria laid down are to be applied since they are largely unworkable.

How are the majority of the teachers in the profession, who are to be on the basic and lower level scales, to be motivated, knowing that criteria have been introduced to reward good teaching, the undertaking of additional responsibility, or the possession of shortage subject skills?

They are said to be able to receive such incentive payments, yet for the substantial mass of such teachers it is becoming increasingly clear that fitting into these defined categories will not give the stated remuneration.

Dr Alan Leech is head of Bohunt School, Laphook, Hants, and secretary of the NUT 14 to 19 working party.

Implications of Pay Proposals for Bohunt School (Figures are numbers of teachers in each category)



## Time to stop taking the easy option

Segregating disturbed or disturbing children - is it the professional answer? Peter Gray and Jim Noukes ask

We tend to think that children with emotional or behavioural difficulties have a problem that needs compensation of some kind, either through a different environment or greater individual attention, and that other children are unreasonably affected. Most approaches reflect these beliefs. They may be convenient in the short term, but we cannot really justify them professionally.

Traditional special provision involves some form of segregation ranging from residential school to on-site withdrawal or welfare assistant "ministers" in normal classes. But there is little research to suggest that these achieve clear, significant changes in learning or behaviour.

If a difficult child is removed from the ordinary class, he feels a sense of relief and we may hear that he is enjoying himself in a special school or unit. But have the difficulties causing concern been tackled? The children who have spent the longest time in special provision are generally the ones that cause the greatest anxiety to ordinary schools and to parents when it is proposed they should return.

We seem to behave as if we do not consider the child is likely to change. Yet we still maintain that existing types of special provision will be in the child's interest.

For mainstream teachers, segregated special provision removes a problem which has usually caused considerable stress. Believing that removal is in the child's interest reduces feelings of guilt. That is natural enough.

It is understandable also that teachers of the "maladjusted" support what they offer. Their jobs depend on it and achieving containment gives some sense of professional competence.



There is little evidence that withdrawal improves behaviour

Alternative solutions could be less predictable and more difficult to organize.

The pupils themselves may also prefer segregation. Once they are withdrawn from normal school requirements, academic demands may be lessened, with more time for more fun activities like go-kart, snooker or fishing. From a position of low status and abnormality in the mainstream, a child can gain a powerful position in an all-age special school.

Parents, too, may see themselves as suffering continual harassment from the ordinary school to solve problems over which they have little jurisdiction. Their competence is confirmed if their child is seen to have special difficulties that need to be "treated".

The system is also maintained by educational psychologists who are expected to produce immediate solutions, enjoy status for achieving removal, and power as the expert on "appropriate placements".

For local authority administrators, changing systems is difficult procedurally and traditionally

keep sight of problems experienced in a different context.

Second, as difficulties are experienced by teachers and parents as well as the children, it is important to help those directly involved to deal with their problems and to tackle similar ones in the future. Removal of responsibility, however easy an option, does not help them to achieve greater control.

Both parents and mainstream teachers are often worried about a child's return as they are not certain that they have the expertise to maintain any improvements in the child's behaviour.

Finally, even when plans may tackle the problems causing concern, they may have undesirable side-effects. Placing a child in a boarding school at an early age because of anxieties about parental care may reduce the chances of fostering later in the event of family rejection or breakdown. When surrounded by other children with emotional and behavioural difficulties, a child may learn a new repertoire of unacceptable actions.

Some side-effects may be acceptable if more major problems are being tackled, but segregation implies the need for some clear idea of the kind and the rate of progress required.

These criteria are rarely met when providing for children with emotional or behavioural difficulties. Over the past two years, we have attempted in our support service to plan more clearly. Learning has involved mistakes as well as successes. But commitment to planning has led to significant professional developments and we believe things will become easier and that little will be done for these children until professional responses are based on sound planning rather than convenience.

Peter Gray is an educational psychologist with the Barking and Dagenham schools' psychological service. Jim Noukes is lecturer-in-charge of its schools' support service.







## BOOKS

## A succession of ifs

**The Enigma of Arrival.** By V S Naipaul. Viking £10.95. 0 670 81576 4.  
**The Radiant Way.** By Margaret Drabble. Weidenfeld & Nicolson £10.95. 0 297 79095 1.  
**Change.** By Maureen Duffy. Methuen £10.95. 0 413 57640 X.

V S Naipaul's new novel takes as its title that of Chirico's mysterious painting (named by Apollinaire), and within its narrative he tells of a story he would like to have written. The summary, beginning with a traveller's arrival in a "dangerous classical city", is masterly, evoking the unease and foreboding generated by the Surrealist masterpiece, and obviates any expansion of the tale: he has said it all in half a page.

This is a profoundly sad book, and not only because it encompasses the deaths of the writer's brother Shiva, to whom it is dedicated, a sister, and a friend. The melancholy tints of Wilshire, where the first of its five sections is set on a decaying Edwardian estate

where tragic and misshapen animals live out their squalid and bewildered lives, and obsolete farm machinery lies rusting in the mire, and which stands as a metaphor for England's decline are beautifully depicted, as are the sojourns in London and the Caribbean, with masses of tiny details which give the book such a sense of character and place. If this work reads more like autobiography than fiction, this detracts not at all from the pleasure of its hypnotic prose, or from its intellectual stature.

Margaret Drabble, in contrast, is a deeply English writer, here also much possessed by death and change and decay. She takes her ironic title from a 1930s children's book which portrays an ideal middle-class world bordered by hollyhocks; a far cry from the violent 1980s where this novel is set. It is only in middle age that one of her heroines discovers, significantly, something sinister about the father in the reading book. Three women, a psychotherapist, one who works with women criminals and an art historian, have reached the age when parents grow old and die, and sometimes leave

sad and shabby skeletons in the family cupboard – the dying mother, isolated in the provinces, who has appeared elsewhere in Drabble's fiction, allows the author to bring her bleak authority to the melancholy rituals of Christmas and funerals. Bombs, street riots, hostages, Beirut, the miners' strike are the topics of conversation at dinner parties and in supermarkets, and a thread of horror trickles through the later part of the narrative like blood as a grotesque murderer strikes close to home.

This is a serious and ambitious attempt to portray the times in which we live, with many nice and acute touches, but at times the flashes of radiance are buried in the thickness of prose, the long paragraphs, that surround them.

"War is a succession of 'ifs'. That's what makes it so fascinating. All our games are imitations of it." Thus Captain, later Brigadier DSO MC, Harry Pearmain, whose memoirs are an important motif in Maureen Duffy's *Change*. Set in the years 1939–45, it is a collage of narrative, letters, diaries, snippets of popular song and the risible

and surreal instructions issued to the Home Guard.

She has drawn on her own family documents and the works of military historians as well as on the memoirs of "ordinary" people, whose lives are made extraordinary by the War, to good effect, giving her account immediacy and authenticity. Her large cast includes several who should have had a novel of their own, and by giving her human and non-human animals precisely the same status in the narrative, showing how the Forest People's concerns not so much as mirror Man's, she makes them sympathetic and credible victims of human folly and aggression. In the aftermath, as the survivors emerge blinking like convalescents at a far-off mushroom cloud, there is for some, like the adolescents who met as lonely evacuees, a dubious optimism, as they make a tentative and poignant bid for happiness, frothing into an uncertain future.

Shena Mackay

## lingo

## Band-wagon

One of the great delights is history, politicians making the best of obviously bad jobs, and Norman had a hard task on February 22, the 11 per cent Conservative vote.

It was put to him that the Alliance band-wagon was now rolling, and his party should go for an election, before that band, gathered even more pace. He thought so: "Band-wagons tend to roll quite regularly." Rail's rails?

In 1855 Barnum's circus, evidently not prospering, had corded that "we sold all our conveyances excepting four horses, the band wagon". This was the thing to go, because it was the piece of the procession when the circus came to town. It carried the band, if a performer could get a place he would attract attention. Poles being performers who need it, it was natural that the idea of hopping or jumping on the band wagon was soon connected with joining the winning side. Of course all make mistakes, and in 1906 the *York Evening Post* wrote of Democrats who "will now be crawling out over the tailboard".

So Mr Tebbitt, with his talk of "neither does his interview (name I missed), for the point is: a band-wagon is gathering pace, the contrary, the faster the thing, the more difficult it will be for you to get on to it. Like any party Alliance does not want a bandwagon, that is accelerating, but one going very slowly and that has plenty empty seats.

W S Brown

## Yomping

**The Shell Book of British Wildlife.** General editor John Whittow. David and Charles £14.95. 0 7183 X.

Despite encroaching development there are still 120,000 miles of paths in England and Wales. The walks listed in this symposium are thematically arranged, in widely varied locations, each one providing information on timings, distances, and other practical details. Sound advice on the way and the weather is given, as well as a list of the equipment and clothing well as due deference being paid to the weather. Nonetheless, the book is wholly practical as it is too large to be carried conveniently in a pack, consulted en route, as is possible with the *Wainwright Lakeland* guides.

Among the rivers and valleys, avoiding walks "to linger over", the Severn at Ironbridge and High Force in Teesdale are noteworthy, but not everyone would agree that 50 miles of coast paths would be a good introduction to walking for the dullest, as suggested. Abandoned ways lined with their preserved mounds and flowerly embankments might be safer. Though there is much to be learned from the book, it is a pity that the 200 years of history and the expertise of the *Wainwright* guides are not more fully integrated into the book.

Gentler walks are suggested in the lowland areas, and are guided by the *Wainwright* guides. The *Wainwright* guides are a treasure trove of information on the country or Jane Austen's and other writers' Hampshire. Though the book is not a guide to the country, it has been improved by a new edition, concentrating on fewer themes.

The first book takes pupils back to the military lifestyle of the legionnaires at Caerleon. By focusing on a day in the life of a soldier, the text touches on the topography of a Roman barracks, the work of its residents as well as the relationship between the Romans and the local Celts. Artefacts found in Wales are illustrated, and the numerous archaeological sites worth visiting are listed. There are also brief career tips for any would-be archaeologists.

## BOOKS IN CLASS

## Debaters and pamphleteers

**Luther.** By Michael Mullett. Methuen £2.95. 0 416 003621.  
**Louis XIV.** By J H Shennan. Methuen £1.95. 0 416 37340 2.  
**Louis XIV.** By Victor Mallia-Milanes. Macmillan £3.95. 0 333 39145 4.  
**The Thirty Years War.** By Peter Limm. Longman £2.95. 0 582 3573 4.  
**Sources in History: The Nineteenth Century.** 0 7135 2626 2. **The Twentieth Century.** 0 7135 2625 4. By Malcolm L Pearce. Bell & Hyman £3.95 each.

If they could have a Lancaster Pamphlet for every topic in their course, A level students would be happy, particularly at this time of year when revision is getting urgent. Fifty concise and incisive pages – and the university of Lancaster's history department seems to be able to keep coming up with them – can just about wrap a topic

up. For depth of coverage you'd have to go elsewhere, but Lancaster Pamphlets do survey work in the field, and they do give a clear point of view.

The strength of *Luther* is Dr Mullett's analysis of the political situation in the 16th-century German states, to which he has no qualms about referring as Germany, despite their fragmentation and devolved political power. Germany's disunity has been exaggerated, he says; it did have a national constitution, albeit one reflecting the absence of authoritarianism. Both the knights and the free cities were strongly nationalist, and the missing authoritarianism was making an appearance anyway in the shape of the invading Roman law.

German concerns of Pope and Emperor, imperial ambitions of Luther's Elector protector Frederick of Saxony, knights' frustration and peasants' desperation, are all vital threads in the developments of the



HISTORY

1520s which followed what was essentially, after all, a religious controversy. Dr Mullett traces them all with clarity.

Luther's legacy was still racking Germany and Europe a century and more afterwards. In *The Thirty Years War* Peter Limm provides documents as well as a standard Seminar Studies depth of analysis, more detailed but no less useful, than the Lancaster mode.

Both *Louis XIV* covers show the king immortalized by Bernini, his idealized countenance dividing the billowing curls of his wig with magnifi-

cent and classical calm. The consensus verdict, though, of contemporaries as well as historians, is less flattering. The Sun King's reign was overcast by too much war and too many taxes; his subjects suffered too much in his pursuit of *glorie*, as he himself, too late, came to realize.

Dr Mallia-Milanes' *Louis XIV* is in Macmillan's Documents and Debates series, whose purpose is to pose questions and provide the evidence to base discussion on. It's a pity there isn't a full bibliography of the secondary source referred to, but there are some useful source-based exercises.

Where Dr Mallia-Milanes asks questions, Professor Shennan, in his Lancaster Pamphlet, gives answers. Was Colbert an innovative bureaucrat? asks Dr Mallia-Milanes. Yes he was a bureaucrat, replies Professor Shennan, but not innovative; he just plugged holes. And he served the king, not

the balance sheet, so he didn't mind spending on war, provided he'd done his job sufficiently well to ensure there was some money to spend. The questions and answers in the two books complement each other nicely.

With the A level boards increasingly going for document questions, and thinking of ways of building on GCSE for future syllabuses, collections like Bell & Hyman's Sources in History will always be useful. Welcome volumes on the 16th and 17th centuries are in preparation too. As well as the sources and exercises, there are introductory sections giving general advice about document work at A level, with suggestions about types of source, hints about how to evaluate them, and, for candidates best of all, clues about what the examiners are after.

Jessica Saraga

## Post-war conflict

**Britain 1945–1985.** By S R Gibbons. Blackie £4.95. 0 216 91903 7.

That no reader could, I think, from S R Gibbons' account of the tumults and political convolutions of the last 12 years, infer how he himself voted at the General Elections of 1974, 1979 and 1983, testifies to the objectivity he is able to bring to his study of post-war Britain, which is enriched throughout by well-cited contemporary comment and quotations from primary sources.

It was the sudden and catastrophic surge in oil prices in the wake of the Yom Kippur War that made 1973/74 such a critical period. The initial interruption of supplies, followed by a price increase by the producers of 66 per cent, succeeded rapidly by a further 100 per cent rise, knocked all the Western economies for six.

In Britain, the oil crisis strengthened the hands of the miners in their

concurrent dispute with the Heath government. A ban on overtime working evolved into an all-out strike.

Heath responded with the three-day week and an election which, against most poll-sampling pointers, he narrowly lost. Then, five years when Labour was in office but not effectively in power, because of its dependence on minority party support. The instability of those years, attended by the spectre of hyper-inflation and the exacerbation of normal inter-party conflicts, disrupted the mild and often consensual nature of post-war politics.

Therefore, and generated the much more confrontational atmosphere which still persists and in which the next election will undoubtedly be fought. For a time in the late Seventies everyone seemed to be playing the National Scenario Game, with usually unalarmed people projecting the potential disaster-mechanisms that could rip apart the benignly tolerant

fabric of British society and thrust power on either extreme left or extreme right.

Such talk seems distant now, but it is still a shock to read of that turbulent period in terms of firmly settled historical fact.

Mr Gibbons' summary of these years is as clear and balanced as it is of the three decades preceding them. Typically, he gives justice to the strong arguments for monetarism – and for the equally potent arguments against. Though the double columns of this generously illustrated book give it a slightly congested appearance, one can recommend it without reserve to young people (15 and over) who want a lucid and impartial introduction to the post-war epoch in which they and their parents either grew – or are growing – up.

Martin Fagg

## Cause, effect

**Documentary History series: The Origins of World War I.** 1 85210 278 0. **The Origins of World War II.** 279 9. By Roger Parkinson. Wayland £6.50 each.

Out of print for some years, several titles in the Documentary History series are now republished. Roger Parkinson's encapsulation of the infinitely complicated long-term and immediate causes of the Great War is enlivened by many shrewdly-chosen extracts from contemporary primary sources, including a key passage from Sir Eyre Crowe's terse but masterly identification of Britain's true diplomatic and strategic interests in a Foreign Office Memorandum of 1907. The account of the 1914 crisis does not perhaps sufficiently stress the crucial

importance of the notorious German "blank cheque" of July 5th, without which Austria-Hungary would not thereafter have proceeded as recklessly against Serbia as she did.

Responsibility for the outbreak of the Second World War is less controversial, and the author's account of the inter-war events that generated it is equally sure-footed. Two caveats. Some of the captioning of the many first-class illustrations is erratic: Hitler as a young soldier is wrongly identified in a WWI group photo, etc. Where the author writes that the Reichstag Fire was started by Marinus van der Lubbe "probably... with Nazi complicity", I should write "improbably" – on all the available evidence, but we shall never now know the exact truth about this. The reissue of these skillful miniaturizations is most welcome.

MF

## Legionnaires to princes

**Romans in Wales, Medieval Welsh Monasteries.** Gerald of Wales, Gerald and Ila World. University of Wales Press £2.50 each.

This series of lower secondary school guides, well illustrated with pictures, maps and diagrams, contains a wealth of contemporary evidence and comes complete with a useful glossary of unfamiliar terms. The topics for discussion and essay questions raised call for an imaginative as well as factual response.

The first book takes pupils back to the military lifestyle of the legionnaires at Caerleon. By focusing on a day in the life of a soldier, the text touches on the topography of a Roman barracks, the work of its residents as well as the relationship between the Romans and the local Celts. Artefacts found in Wales are illustrated, and the numerous archaeological sites worth visiting are listed. There are also brief career tips for any would-be archaeologists.

The medieval theme continues in the story of Gerald Cambrensis, the half-Welsh 12th-century answer to George Borrow. After a Paris education he entered the priesthood, served the English kings Henry II, Richard I and John, and in the spring of 1188 toured Wales recruiting soldiers for the third crusade. This journey was the basis of his many subsequent books about Wales, featuring the countryside, the people and their way of life.

The *Monasteries* title introduces the conflict between invading Norman barons and indigenous Welsh princes. The founding of the monasteries clarifies the division, with the Welsh favouring the Carmelites and the Normans opting for establishing Benedictine houses. The wealth of many monasteries is recorded – in 1921 Margam made a profit of £255. But in the later Middle Ages, there is the suggestion that some monastic money was obtained from – golden grains, especially when the Abbot of Vale Crucis in Glyndwr was found to be a ring leader of a successful band of highway robbers.

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## THE TIMES

## Dating the Shroud

Scientists in Europe and America are embarked on a mission to show by carbon dating whether the Turin Shroud really could have wrapped the body of Christ. Next week *The Times* looks at their methods and assesses their chances of solving a great religious mystery



... and regularly in *The Times*. Philip Howard on words, Bernard Levin on the way we live now, Irving Wardle at the theatre, John Clare on education, Jane MacQuitty on wine, Peter Ackroyd on books, Barbara Amiel's viewpoint, Paul Griffiths on music, Shona Crawford Poole on travel, John Higgins at the opera, David Robinson on the cinema, David Sinclair on rock... and much more

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## TVEI

**The Organisation of the Early Years of the Technical and Vocational Education Initiative**  
Edited by Colin McCabe, University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne

When the second round of TVEI schemes was well launched, six of the project evaluators came together to describe and analyse how the schemes were working. This book presents their ideas with each evaluator taking a separate topic concerned with organisation. The relationship between style and structure in L explored and within schools the position of the head teacher, the work of the curriculum and the dangers of enclaves are considered. Finally, a curriculum perspective is taken and there are two short papers on the management of choices at sixteen plus. The book signposts key features of the introductory TVEI schemes to both local authorities and individual schools, looking at the surface to tell it as it really was.

iv + 68 pages ISBN 0-905028-61-7 £4.95

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**Further history reviews in this week's Extra**  
41–48



## Television

## Gods of war, and guzzlers

"These heroic pages in our island story," was the Prime Minister's description of the failure of British and Argentinean diplomacy over the Falklands. Quoted in the last minutes of the First Tuesday special, *The Falklands War - The Untold Story* (ITV, April 1), the cliché sounded hollow indeed. Despite its title, the programme contained little war footage that was new; the novelty was in the juxtaposition of familiar images of the conflict with recollections by soldiers from both sides and others who were involved, politicians, widows and islanders. The soldiers' stories were horrific and especially moving in their revelations of the feeling that those on opposing sides had for each other. The untold story, perhaps, was the alienation that participants felt on returning home, whether to Portsmouth or to Buenos Aires, to societies which knew and understood very little of what had happened. "Although you don't mind dying for your Queen and country, you certainly don't contemplate dying for politicians," said an officer, recalling his conversations with headquarters in Northolt. "On one particu-

lar occasion I can remember saying to myself: 'I shall win the war for these buggers, and then I shall go.' The interviews and memories gave a vivid picture of the campaign. What the programme lacked were the first and final parts which one expected to make an assessment, five years later, of the responsibilities and the cost. Instead, we were given an account of the prelude to the war and the actual campaign so summary that it proved worse than useless, asking none of the hard questions that arose naturally from the accounts of suffering and compassion that we heard.

It was clear from the first part of Professor James Mackey's series *The Gods of War* (Channel 4, April 4) that it does not intend to shirk any of the hard questions that the very fact of war poses for the major religions; and, for once, we saw a presenter on a religious programme who does not seem inclined to smother his own views behind a façade of tolerance. "Any country," he argued, "which wants to keep its people even remotely prepared for war, and to stockpile arms in a peaceful countryside, must hide under a

cloak of propaganda its own cruder materialist motives and the economic violence it does to its own people and to others." Simply to offer that sentence to television viewers is to show an uncommon degree of respect for their understanding, and this, combined with an unreadiness to accept evasion or hypocrisy, seems likely to make *The Gods of War* an exceptional series.

In the early days, television did its bit in discouraging the sin of gluttony by imprisoning Fanny Craddock and Philip Harben in a spotless studio kitchen where, with attention to the cosmetic work which Mrs Craddock called "presentation", they made light of the chemistry involved in a three-course dinner for six guests or an economy supper for a hungry breadwinner and two children. Johnny Craddock used to arrive at the end to advise on a suitable bottle of wine. I doubt he would have approved of James Robinson's visibly, and audibly, self-indulgent meanderings in a small car among the châteaux of Beaujolais (The Wine Programme, Channel 4, April 4). Stripping from time to time to admire the vine-laden hillsides or a

rural bistro, she invariably ends up in the cellar, allows us to enjoy the noise made by some samples of the contents as they finger between the glass and the back of her throat, and converses with the owner in uncertain French: "beaucoup de gens pensent que c'est impossible de buver..." You might think that the one French verb she did know would be *boire*.

Claudia Roden's *Mediterranean Cookery* (BBC2, Tuesdays) is equally enchanting and shows an equal disregard for the habits, budget and culinary skills of the average viewer (meaning, of course, myself). Does anyone note and try out those Egyptian and Turkish recipes involving large working surfaces and paper-lin dough? Does it matter? The programmes are about sunshine and spices, travelogues with a purpose, armchair activity holidays. They are scheduled at the time when I, and the inevitable unexpected guests, are finding out what you can make of one pork chop and some stir-fry (no recipe leaflet available).

Robin Buss

## High fliers

The Purcell School 25th Anniversary Concert  
Queen Elizabeth Hall, March 16.

The Purcell School - the poor relation of the specialist schools when it comes to government funding - more than proved itself a centre of excellence at its recent silver jubilee concert. An orchestra of musical high fliers arouses expectations and these were not disappointed as the players of the future tackled music of past and present across a range of styles from Bach to John McCabe. Brisk and confident throughout, the strings in Ravel's "Le Tombeau de Couperin" were alternatively spare and ample with plenty of dynamic contrast.

John McCabe's Ballet Suite "Mary Queen of Scots" made an unusual

centrepiece: a series of musical portraits of incidents from the life and loves of the hapless queen that breathed courtly elegance, romance and dark conspiracy. Former Purcell student Nicholas Daniel led the orchestra from the oboe in a relaxed yet rhythmic performance of Bach's Concerto in F major for Oboe, Strings and Continuo, an agreeable blend of crisp orchestral and fluid solo playing with every note perfectly articulated. The evening ended with Brahms's Variations on a theme by Haydn, a work that can be dull and plodding, but which here demonstrated both the musicianship and technical achievement of one of our top musical training grounds.

Philippa Davidson

A whopping donation of £75,000 from the food to furniture giant Hillsdown Holdings has made possible a second London International Opera Festival (May 7-June 6) with no fewer than 53 events on offer. Highlights include a three week season of 20th-century opera at the Donmar Warehouse and a full-scale production of Rossini's *Cinderella* by Opera 80 at the QEH. St Martin-in-the-Fields will provide the

baroque setting for two fully-staged performances by the singers of the National Opera Studio of the world's earliest opera.

Young opera-lovers will have a chance to discover what goes on backstage in preparing for Turandot at the Royal Opera House in Young People's Days and there will be free open-air events in the Covent Garden Piazza over two weekends.



Alexei Kravchenko as Florina in Come and See

## Descent into hell

Come and See (15)  
Curzon Phoenix, Charing Cross Road.  
French Cinema: The First New Wave II  
National Film Theatre, South Bank.

Elen Klimov's *Come and See* (15) is the story of a young peasant who joins the Partisans in Byelorussia during the Second World War and descends into a hell where innocent enthusiasm is transformed into hatred and despair. It has nothing to say about war that has not been said already, but it is a work of extraordinary power and imagination, at once harrowing and absorbing. If there are moments when it touches on the surreal, this is because the war that it represents distorts reality and disrupts the senses. Florina, ironically named, convincingly played by Alexey Kravchenko, is deceived early in the film by the bombing of the Partisan camp and the soundtrack reproduces the effect of his impaired hearing.

Florina does not fire a shot until the final minutes, and then only to vent his hatred on a portrait of Hitler. But already he bears the guilt of possibly having brought the soldiers to his home by leaving to join the Partisans and also, perhaps, because he alone escapes the massacre of a neighbouring village and suffers remorse for which the only outlet is revenge. *Come and See* has been criticised for its depiction of the German soldiers as,

without exception, grotesque sadists, and the final credits are preceded by a reminder of the 628 villages in Byelorussia destroyed with all their inhabitants by the Nazis' special anti-Partisan forces. But the film never pretends that war ennobles even those who are fighting against injustice and oppression.

Elen Klimov recently became First Secretary of the USSR Union of Film-makers: his earlier work, the subject of a retrospective at the NFT, shows an unconventional director who is little known in the West and has more than once been in trouble with the Soviet authorities. He will give a Guardian lecture at the NFT on April 29 which should give a fascinating insight into the current situation of Soviet cinema.

Also in April, the NFT is continuing John Gilleit's review of French silent cinema, "The First New Wave". These seasons, which include several recent restored prints from the Cinéma-thèque, are equivalent to a re-writing of cinema history and will alter preconceptions about both "popular" and "art" films of the period. Among the highlights are the Feuillade serial *Ti-Minh* (April 10 and 11), the five-hour version of Abel Gance's *La Roue* (April 18) and the films of Germaine Dulac, Jean Epstein and Jean Grémillon. There will be a (free) seminar to discuss the season on April 23.

Robin Buss

The Argentinian Writers Julio Cortázar and Humberto Costantini have made an important contribution to the modern political novel. Cortázar's *The Vampires* (translated by Elaine Kerrigan, Faber, £4.95), is a tale about a group of vampires on a cruise who find that the ship is a

microcosm of the state.

Costantini's *The Long Night of Francis Smetis* (translated by Norman Thomas di Giovanni, Flamingo/Penguin, £3.50) dramatizes the moral dilemma of an ordinary citizen at the time of the dirty war.



## Against books?

The Books in the Curriculum Project, recently launched by the Education Publishers Council, is both timely and commendable. Who in the reign of literacy, literary Baker would admit to being against books? Yet as the campaign gets under way it is revealing divisions in the book world that must be recognized and healed.

The dichotomy begins at the publishing stage, where books are categorized as net (ie library books) and non-set (mainly textbooks), with consequent book-selling repercussions. Publishers' discount on net books is 35 per cent, and the obvious result is that low bookellers find it worthwhile to stock textbooks.

The highly selective marketing and distribution of textbooks has a further consequence. The system bypasses school and public librarians, for whom this area is virtually unknown territory. Take, for example, the librarians who run school library services which supplement individual school stocks in English counties alone over £50m is spent on these services. Given that school libraries should support the curriculum, isn't it strange that hardly any of these librarians buy textbooks? Indeed, hardly any school libraries which are an enclosed order in the library world, produced and promoted apart from the library and trade community.

The division is reinforced by the children's book experts who fashionably set "real books" against "reading books", always to the latter's disadvantage. Such sweeping judgements hide the critical deprivation from which textbooks - and therefore their authors and publishers - suffer. The present thriving state of our children's literature is in part due to the critical framework in which it is discussed, encouraged and promoted. Outside school it is the library book which carries status. It is the library book which attracts award sponsors, from the Library Association to Rowntree-Mackintosh, while it is only *The TEs*, and then only for the first time last year, which offers a textbook award. In such circumstances the shoddy and specious can flourish and work of high quality be smothered. Between *Curriculum* and *Mathematics* 11-16 the textbook has moved on, but critics have failed to notice its advance.

The most perturbing difference, however, must be the distinction in schools, where text and library books are judged and mediated in completely different ways. It is in these circumstances that we find classes of 12-year-olds using texts with a reading age of 15; we find books which are really lesson guides to teachers being presented as learning supports to pupils with consequent problems over concept and language levels. We find lessons being taught through one textbook, deemed suitable for the whole variation within a class, while the range of library books on the subject are ignored. We see the contrast between the active help given children to engage with the narrative mode of fiction, and the assumption that the same children will be able to draw meaning from the non-narrative, frequently abstract, style of the subject text.

EPC's report, *The State of Reading*, concludes that most subject teachers see the textbook as their main teaching aid, and the school library as peripheral to their interests. At the same time current educational initiatives require pupils to have access to a wide range of resources, and skill in drawing information from them. At first sight the gap between practice and theory seems too great to be bridged but there are examples, in my own and other authorities, of collaborative work involving subject teachers, school librarians and reading specialists which shows that at least the gap can be diminished. In the search for holism in the school the world the first need is to admit the existence of the gap and begin talking across it.

Peggy Healy

## Go for the best

John James talks to Peter Gill about the National Theatre's Studio

Peter Gill is enjoying "one of the most thrilling times I've had for ages". What is it that has sparked off one of our best theatrical talents - a gifted playwright, brilliant director and teacher of actors? Quite simply, it is an exploratory project in the National Theatre's Studio, a workshop with 15 young black actors concentrating on voice and text, working mainly Shakespeare's *Macbeth* which may or may not end in a showing after seven weeks together.

When talked to him the project had run for a fortnight. In this time the actors (or "artists" as he prefers to call them) had worked on "heavy syntactical hearing; listening to the tune" and all three women "can do a bit of Lady Percy" and all 12 men "can do a bit of Hamlet". It was an object lesson in concentrated hard work, charged with excitement, watching six of them work in pairs going through speeches from *Macbeth* over and over again: listening, experimenting with weight and emphasis as Gill bent over them, knelt before them inspiring and encouraging daring and discovery.

There, in the paint-frame studio beyond the black gates beside the Old Vic box office, it was easy to catch something of his thrill. Calling out to John Burgess who, having come to join him in the project, was working on a Hamlet speech with a 22-year-old black actor, "What do you think? Is the emphasis here or there?" This shared experience between teachers and taught, where all are artists working together, with no place for rivalry or questions of status, characterizes the project. "The good thing about this Studio," he says, "is that there are only four of us on the staff. There is no sense of being threatened. It is not



seen to be uncool to be warm and friendly; none of that English thing of waiting for others to be warm." The project had its roots in an ILEA school and adult education evening classes scattered around London. The young men, all in their early twenties, are black Londoners who speak with three accents: a version of Received English Pronunciation; very strong "London" tones and rhythms; and West Indian speech - mainly Jamaican. Their acting training has not been acquired through drama schools - for which some of them might not have been suited, "not because of race, but because of person" - but through project drama workshops like those of Lorraine Walker at Dick Sheppard School in Brixton. One of them says he was in a hamburger bar "eatin' a Big Mac, when I thought I'd do this evening class". Another went to an FE college to do A Levels and got caught up in drama. Others were in project workshops for black kids at The (Royal) Court, The Lyric, Hammersmith and at Riverside. From these they have

received a lot of training and are interesting as actors because they have been responsible for their own education. "Without these places, they wouldn't be where they are. Sadly, these are the things that are likely to go with educational cuts."

Working with black actors has raised for Peter Gill the question: What is Shakespearean Received Pronunciation for people who have "received" a different accent? Gill remembered Anthony Scher "doing a bit of Hamlet in a South African accent which made my hair stand on end", and another Shakespeare workshop in which actors brought their regional dialects to bear on the text where Linda Henry, a very striking cockney actress, suddenly made Isabella's line in *Measure for Measure*, "There spake my brother", much fuller of family associations than I had ever heard it in RP. He found from these experiences that it was often a help to return actors to their own original accent/dialect in speaking the text as a preparation for doing it in REP. And his current project, *Mac-*

*beth* in Caribbean, picks this up. "We can't do it in 'London' because the women in the group aren't Londoners."

When I mentioned *Umbuthu* (the South African *Macbeth*) and Orson Welles's famous 1930s *Macbeth*, Peter Gill confessed that the remembrance of those nearly put him off doing the play. He tried other alternatives, *Romeo and Juliet* and *Love's Labour's Lost*, but decided that *Macbeth* was the greater play and it was better to go for the best. He wanted, also, to enable the group to experience a whole play - not just scenes. "It is difficult for most actors to get into Shakespeare. Actors often have no experience in playing the classics in an ever-enclosed world belonging to one company - nothing to do with being black! So it's important to get a feel of a whole play. And it's very exciting, despite the sophistication of the group, when in a rehearsal one has to tell the story of *Macbeth* to someone who's hearing it for the first time."

## Sigh-fi

Jump for Joy.  
Northampton Royal Theatre in Education.

This happy promenade-style play for 9 to 13-year-olds starts inside a little girl's dream about music and stars. The year is 2087 and our heroine's reality is a strictly utilitarian boarding school where high technology rules and fripperies like music and flowers are forbidden. A direct descendant of a City Technology College, perhaps.

Our heroine, ZR39, escapes to a land where people speak blank verse, and science - symbolized by an old man's ancient telescope - looks towards the stars as symbols of human aspiration. The derivations (Brave New World, etc) are clear. As a defence of human individualism, the play's strengths lie in the firm link it makes between adventure and poetry, and in the challenge it makes to its young audience to emulate ZR39 and discover its own individual human sparks. Ingenious staging, a strong but simple plot and excellent performances make the process great fun.

It's the first piece that the company have been able to commission directly. Writer Paul Doust has admirably fulfilled his brief - to create an affirmative spiritual play that bridges faiths and cultures.

What's needed is an opportunity for cast and children to explore and participate. This has been partially provided by a limited pilot scheme allowing two seconded teachers to do follow up work. The opportunity needs to be extended, because the educational potential of such a far reaching yet simple play is too great to miss.

Nick Baker

Gbakanda Afrikan Tiatia was set up in 1968 by Yulissa Amadu Maddy in his native Sierra Leone. The word "gbakanda" (the g is silent) means stubborn perseverance, endurance. For nearly 20 years now the company has operated in Africa, Denmark, France, the United States and Britain, following the travels of Maddy, who along the way trained the Zambian National Dance Troupe, collected a Fringe First award at the Edinburgh Festival (in 1979) and occupied the post of Senior Fulbright Scholar at the University of Maryland. Gbakanda's aim has always been to increase awareness of the Pan African heritage. (The key regard as important, taking the word out of the domain of mere geographers.)

Now the company is resident with its founder in Chapeltown in Leeds. Apart from producing plays by Nobel prizewinner Wole Soyinka and Trinidadian Freddie Kissoon, a large variety of performances and workshops (in music, dance and acting) are on offer. Working in collaboration with the Leeds Partnership Scheme, several comprehensive both in Chapeltown and in places as far away as Pudsey have acted as the company's hosts for successful half-day sessions.

Dick Wilcocks

## MINDing

Out of Mind  
Pitprop Theatre Company.

Mental illness is unlike many other targets of prejudice because it can affect anyone transiently or permanently. Its power is intangible and frightening and thus open to wide-spread superstition. *Out of Mind*, Pitprop Theatre's latest production, *Out of Mind*, is enabling fourth year pupils at Wigan secondary schools to confront such issues.

A public meeting is held to discuss the priorities for a new health centre. Progress is disturbed by the entry of a young man whose mumbled protests

and awkward movements invite embarrassment. Skilfully, the actors encourage pupils to defend him and to acknowledge the folly of entrenched public attitudes towards the mentally diseased and disabled.

The play also raises questions about authoritarianism in the conventional treatment of patients. Medication, it alleges, can cause symptoms which create extra social problems for patients, while making them more manageable within institutions. Private health care is another subject raised; its advocates are posh and smilingly deceptive, but there is no effective political exploration beyond that. The resolution of such issues is wisely left to classroom debate. Both the play and the teachers' workshop were constructed in collaboration with MIND.

JM



## Following the goosesteps

Bertolt Brecht's *The Resistible Rise of Arturo Ui* may have underestimated the horror of its subject but it has as much bite now as it did in 1941. Following in the footsteps of Leonard Rossiter and Simon Callow, Griff Rhys Jones (above) has brought the verminous little political gangster exhilaratingly to life. Under David Gilmore's direction at the Queens Theatre the play fairly whizzes along, with brief snapshots of German history projected on to an upended trampoline which covers numerous rapid tableau-like rearrangements of characters and props.

The set is a vast dirty warehouse arched with heavy iron girders; Dominik Maitland's score is dominated by bells and the clangour of heavy industry; the neutralization of Old Dogsborough (Hindenburg) in his baronial home and the Reichstag fire are convincingly presented with minimal means. Gilmore has established an ensemble style which allows the principals to sparkle hilariously: Brian Glover flexing his shoulder muscles as Roma (Rohm), Ken Bones with a galloway laugh and a psychopathic limp as Givola (Goebbels), and Linal Haft, a piranha with lipstick and rouge as Girt (Goering). "... I find it hard to breathe. Perhaps you are allergic to this warmth?" - they all use the springy verse of George Orwell's translation as a way of heightening the comedy, and the group timing is impeccable.

Hugh Padick gives a wonderfully ironic performance as the old Shakespearean actor who draws Arturo's defining mannerisms in this crucial scene we get a vivid sense of the flowering of some monstrous man-eating orchid. Pop-eyed, whining, snarling, and finally reaching confidently from a packing-case pupil, Griff Rhys Jones performs with the style we have come to expect of him. In a curious way, however, he's short on menace: perhaps that will grow as he gets more into the part.

Michael C. Church

## Thingumajig

This month sees the launch of the biggest programme of new play readings and playwrights' workshops ever seen in London. Bristol Express Theatre Company has drawn together 16 writers, 12 directors and designers and well over 100 actors to take part in the company's research and development programme of new writing. The Play's the Thing! runs from April 11 - June 21, followed by a 13-week programme of writers' workshops in West London in the autumn.

"Within ten years home satellite dishes will be as commonplace as washing machines," Richard Maybury writes in *The Beginner's Guide to Satellite TV* (Penguin £3.95). His book deals with the implications, but is mainly concerned with the technology and includes listings of systems and programmes available.

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# A whole constellation

Science centres are in orbit. Mary Cruickshank reports

There is nothing new about practical science. Most science teachers would say it is an essential part of their classroom work. But it is only recently that a three-dimensional presentation has come within easy reach of the general public. Interactive science centres - where the public can explore and experiment with natural phenomena in practical ways - are rapidly gaining ground as new funding emerges (principally from the Department of Trade and Industry, the Gatsby Trust and the Nuffield Foundation) and projects are tried out in the market place.

Last year saw the opening of the Science Museum's Launch Pad and Cardiff's Technic. Bristol's Exploratory was relaunched in a university building in Clifton in February and the Interactive Technology Centre in Liverpool has now opened to schools and the public after a long pilot phase.

Each centre is developing its own style. But the common features of all exhibits - and there are around 1,000 of them now, illustrating different scientific and technological concepts - are interaction, entertainment and a potential for awakening curiosity about the way the world works. There is a widespread exchange of ideas, many originated at the San Francisco Exploratorium, which opened over 20 years ago. So the same exhibits turn up at different centres, often with different names and labels and alteration in design.

For example, the Launch Pad's turntable exhibit, a small freely-rotating platform which demonstrates the effects of momentum conservation, was inspired by the Exploratorium.



The beamed voices exhibit appears as the whisper dish in Cardiff to demonstrate how sound waves travel between two parabolic reflectors.

The latest initiative is the travelling science centre, which will take interactive exhibits around the country in a self-contained mobile unit. Trials for exhibits will take place this summer and the whole show will be on the road by May 1988. It is being devised by Stephen Pizzey, formerly deputy director of the National Photographic Museum and a consultant to the Exploratory and Technic.

Its inspiration was the Zurich-based interactive exhibition, *Phenomena*, conceived by George Mueller as "a bridge to a better grasp of a complicated world". The aim of the travelling science centre is to demystify science, "to present things in a way that makes the world interesting and intelligible when you walk outside," says Stephen Pizzey. "Science has become too textbook based. While it has its formal side, it's also very much part of the world we live in."

The centre is based on hexagonal tent units, each of 1,000 square feet, constructed of aluminium poles and plastic. Its flexible, easily-transportable design means it can adapt to a wide range of sites and be tacked on to an existing building, such as a school, museum or leisure centre, or act as a free standing entity, such as at a showground.

Each unit will have its own theme, for example, natural history or optics. An auditorium is planned for a wide range of activities, including the arts and drama, which will depend on the demands of the region. There will be opportunities for local industries,



schools, universities and colleges to mount their own exhibitions.

Students on the 3D design course at Gwent College of Higher Education, who have already played an important role in creating physical science exhibits for Bristol and Cardiff, are now developing projects for use in the travelling centre's natural history "discovery dome". One, for example, looks at why birds' eggs are the shape they are. What can be deduced about the life-style and habitat of a guillemot from its single pointed egg, compared with the cluster of rounded eggs in an owl's nest?

Hands-on experiments with microscopes and other practical projects are being developed by Steve Pollack of the Natural History Museum in London. One, the choice chamber, will show how land crustacea such as woodlice react to changes of humidity and temperature.

Bryan Dale, director of the Gwent 3D design course, explains that it is much harder working with natural phenomena, because they are less predictable, more fragile and slower in response than the physical sciences. Interactive exhibits have got to arouse curiosity and say "come on, have a go", but the design mustn't upstage the phenomenon being demonstrated.

Observation shows that most people spend little more than a minute at each exhibit, so it has to produce results very quickly. But the interaction mustn't be pre-ordained, there must be the possibility of getting it wrong. Safety and durability are other important factors that have to be taken into account. The wear and tear is considerable. Exhibits are repeatedly handled during the day, in some cases contending with "feet-on" as well as "hands-on" use.

The work at Gwent has evolved naturally from the college's BEd and CDT teacher training courses, which require students to design something that communicates a phenomenon or process in teaching science. The principle of interaction is something that mainstream 3D BA students have to focus on, and so the projects they are undertaking for the science centres feed back into their design work.

The travelling science centre has received a grant of £150,000 from the DTI and £30,000 from the Nuffield Foundation, which has had a long involvement in maths and science education. Anthony Tomel, deputy director of Nuffield, hopes the centre will act as a catalyst for other interactive projects. "It's not just a collection,



but a whole constellation of activities with the capacity for local events and exhibitions as well," he says.

The BBC will also be watching the centre closely as its own Project Science year proceeds. This campaign to promote the public's awareness and understanding of science will include a wide range of science programmes from primary to Open University and in-service courses for teachers. The imaginative thrust of the programmes will lie in their practical approach.

A foretaste of the style has already been seen in the series, *Take Nobody's Word for It*, which has received an enthusiastic response, particularly from people who had previously had given up at school. "I never realized science could be so interesting," is a frequently-heard comment at interactive science centres. Because the design of exhibits is governed by the public's response to them, interest is maintained and the evidence is that people visit and revisit the centres. If an exhibit fails to engage the public,

then it is abandoned. This is why the trial periods and the evaluation programmes such as those carried out by Liverpool University school of education and the Science Museum are important at this early stage.

At the same time it is necessary to ask what sort of evaluation is most appropriate. If the science centres are concerned with attitude, changing rather than learning in a formal sense, ways of assessing the long-term impact of a visit need to be considered. A conference at Liverpool University this weekend will address these questions.

We are only beginning to scratch the surface of what is involved, says Anthony Tomel. "At one level you see people having a terrific time. If people enjoy science rather than find it threatening, that is an achievement. Any teacher, student or CDT enthusiast who would like to take part in designing or building exhibits for the travelling science centre can contact Stephen Pizzey at the Nuffield Foundation, 28 Bedford Square, London.

experience, business studies, CPVE, TVET and the YTS. Given the mixed-ability nature of most careers work, *Rebel Records* enables students to achieve targets and to assess their own and others' performance, which is particularly useful for CPVE and TVET courses. It also contains an appendix of the jobs in a typical factory, many of which are included in the units.

Teachers will find individual sections appropriate for covering their subject areas, such as distribution in geography, and finance and accounts in maths and business studies. *Rebel Records* is a well-conceived and imaginative package which is not intimidating to the teacher.

Richard Evans

**notes**

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## Mortals

### SCHOOL RADIO

RSC in Repertoire  
BBC Radio 4VHF, March 30 and 31. The four 20-minute programmes are now available on two tapes (*Romeo and Macbeth*) and (*Dream/Richard II*), £5 each, from BBC Emergency Cassette Service, Centre for Educational Technology, Civic Centre, Mold, Clwyd CH7 1YA.

Students studying *Romeo and Juliet*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Richard II* or *Macbeth* are here given insights not only into the text, but into each participant's contribution to a particular production. An especially useful lesson is that each interpretation is only one of many possibilities; there is no right way of doing Shakespeare. RSC directors, aware of both their audience's fore-knowledge of the plot and the weight of tradition, feel impelled to experiment. Bill Alexander, director of *The Dream*, admits as much. He has now changed his mind about his Stratford production in which, with the same actress doubling as Titania and Hypolita, the fairy sections become Hypolita's dream, an expression of her wilder self. Alexander now believes this to be a distortion of the play and changes will be made before the Barbican opening.

Other topics discussed are how to play a fairy, whether Bottom's character changes, the symmetry of the groups, and the theme of love.

Michael Bogdanov, describing his

modern dress Italian *Romeo*, explains his intention to present a "hard analysis of a mercenary society" and to show the lovers to be not star-crossed but man-crossed - victims of society. His aim is to send his audience out arguing: the tape could be as stimulating for class discussion.

Bill Dudley's design for *Richard II*, inspired by the Duc de Berry and with a symbolically declining sundial, is shown to be integral to Barry Kyle's interpretation of the play. Richard's England is a Garden of Eden into which the efficient, cynical populist Bolingbroke intrudes. The destruction of Richard - and the garden - ensue. Jeremy Irons speaks enthusiastically of his role as the king, an idealist, a lover of the arts who gives away political responsibility with some relief.

Jonathan Pryce and Sinead Cusack show in conversation how they have developed their characters as Macbeth and Lady Macbeth together. Adrian Noble's production, with its claustrophobic black box set designed by Bob Crowley, emphasizes the domesticity, the ordinary humanity of the pair. Everything depends on their marriage being a strong partnership which has survived the trauma of losing a child. Adrian Noble describes how he has dealt with the traditional difficulties of this play - the witches, Banquo's ghost and the ghostly dagger.

Each programme is stimulating and informative in its own right, but each would be especially appropriate to what the appetite before a visit to the production in question, all part of the current Barbican season.

Heather Neill



From the RSC's Stratford production of "A Midsummer Night's Dream"

**briefings**  
radio & tv

Continuing education and general interest

### ESSAYS ON POPULAR MUSIC

(Saturday, 16.30 VHF4)  
What is vibrato? Do all popular singers have the sweetness of tone it provides? Mel Hill investigates, with illustrations from Sarah Vaughan, Edith Piaf, Mick Jagger and the bands of Sidney Bechet and Glenn Miller.

### YOU IN MIND

(Sunday, 16.15 BBC1)  
The last in this series, soon to be repeated, looks at ways of overcoming the stress of change. People who have found meditation helpful discuss its benefits.

### WORKFORCE

(Sunday, 22.15 R4)  
Brian Redhead presents a review of recent work initiatives. Ronald Cohen talks about raising venture capital: there's a report on Telework, where people working from home use on-line computers, and one on job creation prospects from the Institute of Manpower Studies.

### VIDEO ACTIVE

(Sunday, 23.00 BBC1)  
"Strike a Light" features ways of

lighting to enhance video making. Sue Robble discusses the experiences and results of two viewers.

### THE WAR OF THE WORLDS

(Monday-Friday, 22.15 R4)  
H.G. Wells' book, found on some O level syllabuses, is this week's "Book at Bedtime", abridged by John Scotney and read by Simon Ward.

### ADVICE SHOP

(Tuesday-Thursday, 9.45 BBC1)  
Advice for everyone on the benefits and help available on themes such as training, retirement, sport and leisure and, this week, divorce. Information leaflets from the BBC.

### THE AMATEUR JUSTICES

(Tuesday, 22.30 R4)  
A study of the local magistracy in Coventry pinpoints the sort of people who become JPs and the way they approach their jobs during a time of rising crime.

### THE MAKING OF BRITAIN

(Wednesday, 18.30 C4)  
Dr Philip Gardner examines attitudes to education in the 19th century and shows how middle class ideas of respectable behaviour killed working class culture.

### GO FOR IT!

(Thursday, 17.35 BBC1)  
Angharad Mair and Robbie Vincent follow another five families as they strive for a fitter, healthier life for themselves and their children.



## Civic pride

A new series from Granada TV considers Victorian values

### CONTINUING EDUCATION

Victorian Values  
ITV Granada, Wednesdays 7.00pm from April 15.

What exactly were Victorian values? For Mrs Thatcher, who is responsible for bringing them back into the public eye, the answer is simple. "I was brought up to work hard. We were taught to live within our income, that cleanliness is next to godliness. We were taught self-respect. You were taught tremendous pride in your country. All these are Victorian values" (1983). For Bamber Gascoigne and his crew on the television series, the answers are more problematic. Though the half-hour programmes do not delve deeply into the history of ideas, do not for instance look at the puritan heritage of such ideas as "living within your income" or "self-respect", they are a useful reminder of the social questions Victorian society posed and of the many, though partial, solutions it achieved.

Looking at the issues of sanitation, health, law and order, education, local government and philanthropy, Mr Gascoigne has elected to take a mildly crusading tone on behalf of the reforming tendency in Victorian society. It is true that the values upheld by Joseph Chamberlain, the "Gas and Water Socialist" whose transformation of the city of Birmingham forms the centrepiece of the fifth programme (on local government), were radically in contrast to the privatization favoured by the present government. But had Mr Gascoigne looked at some of Chamberlain's opponents, or at those who opposed universal education for

fear it would bring discontent to the poor, or at those who fought Edwin Chadwick's proposals for sewerage on the rates (in the first programme), some familiar voices would have been exposed.

"Socialism on the rates," they fumed. They excoriated the Public Health Service which helped to eliminate epidemic diseases and lasted till the 1970s. "Some people can't be helped," they sneered at the philanthropists, who all too often were mopping up the casualties from a great tide of low paid work "insufficient to provide for the necessities of life" (Mayhew Booth Webb *et al.*). Victorian society was highly complex and in a state of flux, encompassing the student Marx and the jingoes of Empire, riddled with masters who starved and beat their domestic servants, as well as with the Lord Shaftesburys who brought in the Factory Acts and other reforms.

With these caveats, the series - and

the lucid and more comprehensive book which accompanies it (to be reviewed shortly) - is a useful look at the positive aspects of Victorian civic pride. This pride led to local improvements, and the lavish detail which graces the municipal palaces shown in the local government programme emphasizes the technical ingenuity which was brought to bear. Likewise the achievements of Chadwick and Bazalgette in building the sewers we still use today, the building of schools and museums and of prisons and hospitals, the establishment of great charities like the Salvation Army or NSPCC, remind us of the Victorians like Chamberlain who could point to a city "paved, parked, assized, marketed and improved" and exult that "we shall get our profit indirectly, in the comfort of the town and the prosperity of its inhabitants."

Victoria Neumark



## Roadshow

**The Opportunity of a Lifetime**  
The 1966/87/58th annual IEE Faraday Lecture  
Presented by ICL

Under the aegis of the Institution of Electrical Engineers, the Faraday roadshow has yet again come to town. This year's featuring body, ICL, were touring 17 towns and cities enthusing school children and the general public about the opportunities that information technology offers us as individuals and as a society. The final lecture in this year's cycle will be given in Dublin next week.

"The Opportunity of a Lifetime" describes information technology in retail, manufacturing, medicine and office systems. Today's computers, though, are crude compared to the fifth generation's processing power which will facilitate artificial intelligence systems and communication via speech and touch. ICL's presentation is both understandable and fascinating. Computer jargon is explained and the message of "opportunity" is enhanced by a blinding use of electronic music and large screen computer

graphics, designed to represent a futuristic computer.

My enthusiasm seemed to be shared by the audience of 2,000, mainly from schools and colleges, who attended one of the London Barbican lectures. It's no wonder then that the Faraday lecturers look for ways in which audiences can be increased from the 100,000 or so who routinely attend. Consequently, a video is frequently made of the lecture. ICL appear to be taking educational spin-off more seriously than their predecessors. These schools and colleges attending the lectures have already received a Faraday resource book, while a "2001 Timecapsule" competition for schools is under way and (though still under wraps) more resources to encourage the exploration of new technology in schools are promised.

When schools are financially hard pressed, the Faraday lecture and its spin-offs should be a welcome bonus. Yet many people in education have never even heard of it. It is particularly regrettable that this educational event is not broadcast nationally like the Royal Institution's Christmas lecture.

Jean Sargeant

Previous years' videos are available from the IEE Centres Services Section, North House, Nightingale Road, Hitchen, Herts.

## A cause

**Rebel Records: A Company at Work.**  
£19.50 + £1.90 post and packing  
Careers Consultants, 12/14 Hill Rise, Richmond, Surrey TW10 6UA.

One of the difficulties of careers guidance and life-skills programmes is introducing the idea of the world of work without being too job-specific. The title of this pack, *Rebel Records*, suggests a definite job area limited to the record industry but the opposite is the case. *Rebel Records* uses the theme of a young person on work experience in a record factory to introduce a range of activities in the various sections of the factory and to illustrate typical work skills.

Eighteen units, contained in a ring binder, comprise an overall theme that can be followed either in sequence or independently. Each unit has clear teachers' notes followed by photocopiable worksheets for students. The notes are detailed enough to be used by someone unfamiliar with group activity and can also be extended and adapted for role-play and simulations. The package is designed for 14-17-year-olds on simulated work ex-

perience, business studies, CPVE, TVET and the YTS. Given the mixed-ability nature of most careers work, *Rebel Records* enables students to achieve targets and to assess their own and others' performance, which is particularly useful for CPVE and TVET courses. It also contains an appendix of the jobs in a typical factory, many of which are included in the units.

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## WEST BECKTON CHILDREN'S CENTRE, E.16 NURSERY TEACHER

Scale 2 full-time or part-time

The Authority seeks to appoint for September 1987 or earlier if possible a full time qualified nursery teacher or two part-time teachers to work mainly in the new Children's Community Centre which provides day care for young children. This is a new appointment and the Authority is looking for candidates with commitment to meeting the educational needs and the day care operation between Council departments and Dr. Barnardo's.

Applications are invited from teachers who have completed their probationary period and preferably have some further experience in nursery education. The teachers appointed will be attached to the Scott Wildlife Primary School, Hoxline Close, London E16 and will be professionally responsible to the Head Teacher of that school.

Scale 2 salary plus London Allowance. For an informal discussion about this post please contact Ma V. Pickett, General Adviser for Early Years, Education Department (Tel: 534-4545 Ext 30 724) or Ma J. Tyne, Project Leader, West Beckton Centre (Tel: 511 3222).

This post is open to Teachers who wish to Job-share. Application forms can be obtained from Director of Education to whom completed form should be returned by 21st April 1987.

Director of Education, Education Office, 377/383 High Street, London E15 4RD.

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY AUTHORITY (14302)



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(Group 4 + LFA £309 p.a.)

Required September 1987

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Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced practicing Roman Catholic teachers. The successful candidate should be energetic and motivating also by personal example and leadership, pursue the quest for pride, professionalism and excellence. Generous relocation allowances payable in appropriate cases.

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Required September 1987

Applications are invited from suitably qualified teachers for the following Headship.

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(Group 5 + LFA £309 p.a.)

Staples Road, Loughton.

Generous relocation allowances payable in appropriate cases. Please send foolscap s.a.e. for form and details to: County Education Officer, P.O. Box 47, Threadneedle House, Market Road, Chelmsford CM1 1LD. Tel: 0245 267222, ext. 2680.

Closing date: 24th April 1987. (11788)

ESSEX

County Council

ESTCOTS C.P. SCHOOL  
Bourg de Peage Avenue,  
Lewes Road,  
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## Headteacher

Required for September 1987 or January 1988 for this Group 6 County Primary School. The school was built in 1872 and the modern buildings comprise 15 classrooms with activity areas. The school will soon be benefiting from further development.

Further details and application form available from Area Education Office, Goffs Park House, Horsham Road, Crawley, Sussex on receipt of s.a.e. (13468)

west sussex

## PRIMARY HEADSHIPS

continued

### CALDERDALE METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

ST JOSEPH'S R.C. (AIDED) JUNIOR SCHOOL, 11th Street, Brighouse H16 2BT

HEADTEACHER Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced teachers who are practising Roman Catholics and who have completed their probationary period. The successful candidate will be responsible for the school and will be expected to take up the post in September 1987.

Application forms and further details are available on request of Teachers' Association, St Joseph's Rectory, St Martin's Street, Brighouse H16 2BT, to whom completed forms should be returned by 24 April 1987.

The Council is committed to being an equal opportunities employer and service provider. Applications are invited from women and men from all sections of the community, irrespective of ethnic origin, race, disability, sexual orientation or marital status who have the necessary attributes for the post. (08722) (110610)

All advertisements are subject to the conditions of acceptance of Times Newspapers Ltd., copies of which are available on request.

## CUMBRIA

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6. HEADTEACHER (Group 9) - 11 NOR 247

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11. HEADTEACHER (Group 14) - 11 NOR 247

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**COCKFIELD C.F. (Aided)**  
**SCHOOL**  
Required for September 19  
a Scale 1 Infant Poucher  
reception class. The Govern  
will be looking for a commit  
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(Aided) School, Church St  
Cockfield, Haywards, H  
West Sussex RH17 5  
(08541) 110

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EXTRA

## Experiments in empathy and role play

# Dramatic events

**D**riven, as ever, by a desire to make the process of learning more interesting, alive and relevant, pursued by the demands of GCSE with its empathy work and oral skills, I began some years ago to develop the use of drama as part of an historical education. As a non-specialist I hesitate to use the term "drama", and mean it to encompass role-play, mime, the performing and writing of plays. Why make this development?

The idea that we learn through experience is perhaps over used, but nevertheless, I start from that premise. In developing drama in history I was seeking to combat some of the passivity towards the learning process and to work towards more active oral involvement. How often we see bright students who find verbal expression difficult and conversely how often we see orally able students who are given a sense of failure because of their inability to write fluently. Both GCSE and modern life in general demand effective

COLIN HALL

Communicative skills.

A more pertinent historical reason for this development arose partly out of the demands of GCSE; one of the objectives of GCSE is empathy. For generations history teachers have aimed to create an affinity with the past in a general way, but here was a specific objective, and this drama seemed a useful marriage of convenience. Role play seemed to me to be a direct way into understanding the past in the sense of being part of it. It provided a medium that did not necessarily depend either on great amounts of knowledge or written skills.

Three experiments of a very different nature came to mind. The first was based around the Schools History Project material on Richard III and the princes in the tower. This is an annual study in evidence for our history

department, but on this occasion we turned the study into a public trial, presided over by a local barrister who acted as judge. With borrowed legal dress, and the school hall turned into a courtroom, we put Richard III's reputation on trial. The trial centred on four students who took the roles of barristers and put witnesses through some searching questions. In this instance, drama became the tool of very complex evidence-based history, but it added interest and involvement.

The second experiment was with a group of third year students who wrote, directed and acted their own play about life in Nazi Germany. The play centred on the events of the "Kristallnacht" and involved two families, one pro-Nazi, one anti-Nazi. It examined their different reactions to events and to the issue of fascism. Starting from the human point of view and direct emotional involvement, it seemed that students had a good understanding of the issues that must have faced much of the German population in the 1930s. The following is a short extract from the play:

**Frau W:** Please be quiet Father, you don't know what you're saying. I don't like to see people injured in this way, but the Jews are the cause of our problems - Hitler says so, he's explained it.

**Herr W:** You say I don't know what I am saying and you are quite right. I don't because I haven't been told all the facts. None of us know the truth anymore - everything is a cover up.

**Eugene:** But we have - Hitler tells you through radio, he holds rallies, where people go just to be told what is happening, we've never been as well informed. If he wanted to hold back information, he would simply not say anything. He understands what he says doesn't he?

**Fritz:** He does explain things simply - yes. But leaves important facts out. That's the problem, nothing is as simple as he makes it out to be.

**Gregor:** I would be quiet if I were you. If you weren't my brother then

**Fritz:** (suddenly): It's propaganda! Chorus: What?

**Fritz:** It's propaganda - he's forcing his ideas on to us -

**Herr W:** And if we don't listen and agree we're persecuted, like the Jews.



"Don't buy from Jews" advises the Nazi sign - outside a shop in 1938. The dramatization of the events of Kristallnacht by pupils at Grady School Harrogate shows a good grasp of the issues facing the German people at the time

**Frau W:** We are puppets, with "the Führer" pulling the strings. We can't speak out because - like father said - we are afraid to. So we have to sit back and watch the Jews get hurt.

**Gregor:** Stop, stop right there, stop and listen, you are getting caught up in your own little worlds. The Jews are evil, we know this - Hitler knows - he says so. Since Hitler became our Führer, Germany's economy has risen, we never had hope of a car before, now look at the autobahns. He is freeing us from the Treaty of Versailles, he has made us a strong nation. We are to be the master race. We are happy, not badly off, and why? - because of Hitler.

**Monika:** Yes, but why persecute the Jews, couldn't he have done all this without hurting others, and couldn't we have had this in a democracy? How can he persecute people just because they are Jews? Do you think Hitler would have been voted in, in a democracy?

The third approach lies in role play and is more easily manageable in short lengths of time. If the topic, for example, is "Primitive People", then a useful lesson with students miming the activities of daily life can lead to an interesting and active way of examining a concept that is often difficult. Role-play is almost too obvious to suggest and yet it is often passed over as an opportunity. We ask students to take on the attitudes of other people at other times without ever making them feel those attitudes.

In the SHP Depth Studies, one of the specific objectives is to understand the motives of another people at

another time. This can lead to an excellent basis for role play. For example, in discussing the Great Reform Act, each student is given an assigned and specific role in what he/she expresses certain feelings or opinions and the contrast of opinion can be brought out. In discussing the movement west in 19th-century America, students can adopt the roles of the settlers. This can bring the student greater personal awareness of an issue or attitude. For those who can take it into written form, an extra dimension has been added; for those whose ability is more limited, an experience has opened up a learning facility that might otherwise have been missed. This particular method of role play might be adapted to almost any historical topic. In fact, one must use it sparingly to maximize its efficacy.

These are merely a few examples of the ways in which drama might add an historical experience. There are many casualties of the approach; occasionally one must be prepared to sacrifice degree of accuracy and in sensitive areas care has to be taken not to trivialize or over-simplify moral concerns or people's suffering. One must ensure that sufficient historical information is fed into the drama process so that it maintains its worth some consideration. If history is to play a worthwhile role then we must ensure that students do have a feeling for, as well as an awareness of, the past in its human richness and complexity.

Colin Hall is head of history at Grady High School, Harrogate.

## Success story

A History of Germany 1815-1985. By William Carr. Edward Arnold £9.95. 0 7131 6495 6.

This third edition of a book first published, to wide acclaim, in 1969, embodies substantial revision (in the light of recent research, including the author's own) of the chapters on Wilhelmine, Weimar and Hitlerite Germany and adds a new chapter to bring the story down from 1945 to 1985.

Professor Carr brings the deft and lucid concision characteristic of his whole narrative to the tale of Germany's astonishingly rapid recovery

from utter defeat and prostration - and consequent rise, in her GFR incarnation, to economic and industrial pre-eminence in the EEC, and to a position third only to the US and Japan in the free enterprise world. Even the ODR long hamstrung and impoverished by Ulbricht's slavish Stalinism, now enjoys a measure of prosperity inconceivable amid the ruins of 1945.

This is the only book on the market to embrace, in a single volume, this enormously ambitious 170-year time span: it remains a model of compressed enlightenment - deeply enjoyable in its own right, an invaluable teaching-and-learning tool.

Martin Foss

### Common ground

spin in the direction of other subject areas. In this topic, for example, we would need to consider how propaganda and censorship might function in relation to the arts, how inventions do change the course of events in specific ways, how the resources for controlling the world are used in the context of a geography of differences.

It is my belief that we could, given time and some resources, develop programmes of study that would begin to make sense of the whole curriculum for all pupils, using the best resource

we have on offer - history itself. Sensibilities of subject areas would be damaged en route, and a lot would have to be given up in favour of a larger gain, but the one subject that could retain a central role would well be our great provider. It would have to accept, on occasion, as merely a practical ground for, say, language and mathematics, but it would not do rather it would take new life, and a new central position in the school curriculum.

John Fines is Head of History at Sussex Institute of Higher Education.

EXTRA

Skills v content - the Historical Association says this is a battle that need not be fought

## Preventing civil war

DONALD READ  
MARTIN ROBERTS

**T**he place of history in the school curriculum is now being discussed more intensively and publicly than at any time during the past 20 years. The Historical Association welcomes this debate.

HA members were shocked to discover a couple of years ago that about half of all school pupils were giving up history at 14-plus. They were further disconcerted to find that history 7-14 was often subsumed within humanities courses, in some of which a coherent historical dimension remains but in many of which it does not. Other concerns, variously revealed and answered, have related to the fragmentation of chronological coverage; to the shift away from the study of British history; and to the lack of continuity between primary and secondary-school history teaching.

Against this background of unease, the Historical Association was pleased when, at a meeting on 24 October 1985, the then Secretary of State (Sir Keith Joseph) encouraged a deputation to suggest how history might fit into a 5-16 core curriculum. The resulting paper, entitled *History for Life*, contained general observations about history 5-14 along with a detailed proposal for a 14-16 course on 20th-century British history. This was shaped to be taught either on its own account or within a modular humanities programme.

*History for Life* aroused sufficient interest for the present Secretary of State, Mr Kenneth Baker, to invite another HA deputation, which met him on 19 December 1986, to develop its ideas about history 7-14. This request resulted in *Proposals for History in a Core Curriculum* being sent to Mr Baker at the beginning of February. An accompanying letter emphasised how these were first, not last, thoughts. The *Proposals* document will be discussed at a series of regional conferences sponsored by the HA in the autumn, to which all interested parties are invited. In a related initiative, the Historical Association has just begun to explore with the Politics, Geographical and Economics Associations the possibility of reaching agreement over an interdisciplinary Human-

nities programme of modules which might be assessed through GCSE.

Thanks to wide media coverage, the HA's *Proposals* have attracted considerable attention. The following points are made in answer to some critics and in the hope of finding a way forward with maximum agreement:

- 1) At a time when both the Conservative Government and the Labour Opposition are expressing their active interest in the core curriculum idea, it is right for the Historical Association to campaign for a place for history within any such curriculum. Kenneth Baker is on record as saying that he wants history to be one of the five basic subjects. Giles Radice for Labour has spoken in favour of a "national curriculum" and of "national standards or benchmarks", although he appears not to have mentioned history specifically in either connection. The politicians expect to be further prompted both by public discussion and by private pressure.

- 2) To their credit, both Mr Baker and Mr Radice seem to be keen to formulate policies which combine the best of older and newer ideas in education. Among the latter, the HA has readily recognized the freshness and value of the learning-of-skills approach to history teaching, which has been so much developed over recent years. Yet the question has begun to be asked, inside the HA and outside, whether enthusiasm for skills has blunted awareness of the importance of content. "Hard facts are fine for the élite 15 per cent of pupils, but no use when teaching a comprehensive range of the population." Such is the reported opinion of one respected educationist. Yet this emphatic assertion has been strongly questioned by the "history as change-over-time" or the "British history for future citizens" advocates. Consequently, there is now a real danger of civil war breaking out - between a skills-mainly party (roundheads?) and a content-equally party (cavaliers?). This must not be allowed to happen.
- 3) The HA has made suggestions about content in both *History for Life*

and *Proposals for History in a Core Curriculum*. A spread and balance has been suggested across the 7-16 age-range - 30 per cent minimum world history; 30 per cent minimum British history; and 10 per cent minimum local history. The remaining 30 per cent of teaching time would then be left for allocation as teachers think most suitable, producing flexibility within a framework. As some critics have seemed determined to claim that the HA is interested only in kings and queens, and that such history is elitist, the *Proposals*, in fact, suggest a mix between political, social, cultural, scientific, technological and economic history, even though they do not make the silly mistake of pretending that past rulers (good or bad) have not mattered.

3) Lord Bullock and others have recently attacked the new GCSE history because it allows teachers, if they choose, to omit any study of the history of their pupils' own native land. Alan Bullock observes concerningly that during his lifetime only one country has tried to abolish its own past; and how that country, China, is still paying the price of the cultural revolution. But the HA's *Proposals*, if implemented, would provide a way round - even a justification for - the omission of British history at this stage. For all pupils taking specialist GCSE history would have first started upon the subject as part of the core curriculum; and within that curriculum, a long span of British history - focused through a plotted succession of topics, some studied in depth, others performed more briefly - would be required study.

If such a combination of core-curriculum history and GCSE history teaching were achieved, it would, of course, greatly strengthen the standing of history in the schools. So let not our latter-day cavaliers and roundheads use their swords upon each other. 1660 saw the restoration of a king; let 1990 see the restoration of a subject.

Donald Read is president of the Historical Association. Martin Roberts is head of Chervell Upper School, Oxford, where he teaches Schools History Project.



## Factories and farming

HUGH BODEY

**O**ne consequence of the breakneck speed at which GCSE was introduced was that it was seldom possible to break away from the standard syllabuses and their existing resources. Some examining boards accept that what they offer is only the best that could be done in the circumstances. In FE, with our one-year courses, we have had longer to digest the various criteria and develop a new course. The disadvantage is that few outside FE may be in a position to make use of it. This course, though, is available to any school or college through their own examining board, and to individuals via Open Tech.

The course is centred on the development and decline of British agriculture and industry since Roman times. All the historical concepts re-

quired by the criteria can be explored within the available material without having to contrive anything: continuity and change, cause and effect, progress and regress. Some may see in it no more than a line of development scheme, but it is more than that. A criticism of line of development schemes is that they only explore matters in the past if they continue into the present. This scheme does decline every bit as much as development.

Others will complain that the course concentrates entirely on British history. But in my view there is as much to be said for confining study at this age to British history as there is for widening it. One reason is that the basic theme remains constant throughout the course, and the signs are that less able candidates in particular will find it easier than the frequently

shifts involved in learning world history. Few history candidates nowadays also study the necessary regional geography. Mature students returning to study after years away from it should also find the factual content nearer their own experiences, enabling them to learn more effectively. One of the most valuable benefits arising from the move to GCSE is the shift in emphasis from what candidates know to what they can do.

The length of time covered by the course makes it possible to discuss other matters which are not going to be examined directly. One example is the impact of the flow of people and ideas into Britain from outside, which has done much to further farming and industry. It may be more fruitful to approach the impact of immigration by these means than as a contemporary "problem".

Similarly, working conditions, the roles of men and women, government intervention... a variety of current themes can be discussed in passing, and are usually thought about more deeply by the students just because they are not part of the examinable syllabus. To this extent the apparent irrelevance of the forced development of farmland during the Roman occupation or the drudgery of domestic industry or absentee land-owning in Ireland may be a better preparation for life in the 21st century than America's Indians or Europe's cold war.

The coursework will be an assignment of up to 2,000 words, based on a topic related to but not directly part of the syllabus, such as a local example or a biographical sketch. There is also a section in the examination that asks how we assess the reliability of source material - it is a useful first step to being critical.

Copies of the course are available from Hugh Bodey at South Devon College of Arts and Technology, Torquay, TQ8 8BB.

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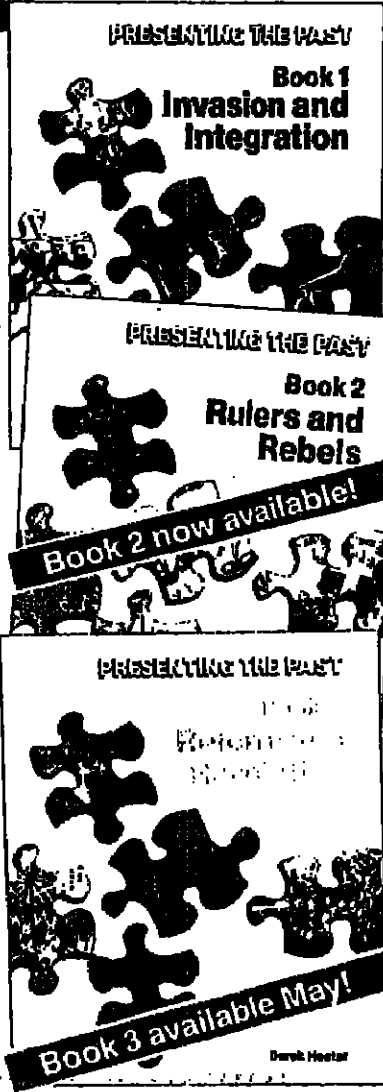
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EXTRA



1 Member of the Board of Health discussing measures to combat cholera, from *The Cholera is Coming*

In most secondary schools, critical appraisal of television has generally been left to the English department, or devolved to an over-restricted audience within a media studies option. Critical appraisal of the media will undoubtedly assume greater prominence within secondary schools, and it would be unfortunate if examination of the form and features of television programmes were to be regarded as the province of a specialist department, or even of a single member of staff.

History departments tend to be heavy users of television resources. Usually a television programme is used when its subject matter seems particularly relevant to a specific component of a syllabus; when it seems to offer useful background information, and/or when it evokes empathy in pupils for other times, places or people. In addition to educational programmes, many mainstream broadcasts are used, with teachers capitalizing on television's obsession with re-presenting our past.

The National Criteria for GCSE history state that one of the aims of a history course is "to ensure that candidates' knowledge is rooted in an understanding of the nature and the use of historical evidence", and the assessment objectives state that all candidates will be expected to "show the skills necessary to study a wide variety of historical evidence which should include... visual material... and orally transmitted information", by "comprehending and extracting information from it" and "interpreting and evaluating it".

Television programmes deploy historical evidence continuously, and yet they are rarely subjected to the same evaluative strategies that teachers encourage their pupils to apply to other forms of evidence. A number of factors may account for this. Mainstream

Slick and seamless TV production techniques can obscure historical truth

## Watch carefully...

ROY TWITCHIN  
MICHAEL REECE

television programmes are made to appear as less smooth. It is part of the television professional's craft to make programmes in which separate locations, arguments, or even historical periods are welded together, the joints seeming as inconspicuous as possible. "Educational" programmes have become imbued with the same production values as mainstream programmes, the result being that they can be just as difficult to analyse.

Another factor inhibiting critical appraisal is that different kinds of programme require different methods of analysis. TV companies and viewers draw distinctions between television programmes by assigning them to different genres: "documentary", for example; and then to sub-genres: drama-documentary, historical documentary, wildlife documentary and so on. Teachers readily recognize most of these forms, but are perhaps less familiar with the process of isolating, and assessing the significance of, their distinctive characteristics. To further complicate such a process, these distinctions are rarely reliable. Some programmes borrow techniques more often associated with other kinds of programme.

How then, can we make a start? How might a subject teacher, interested enough to consider television as more than a transparent, unproblematic audio-visual aid, but having neither the time, energy nor inclination to acquire yet another specialism, begin? One method of getting to grips with the "how", as well as the "what" is to select several scenes from a programme, look carefully at how the story is being told, and consider some of the questions that are raised.

To locate these somewhat abstract notions firmly in the context of a classroom, we have chosen as an example a schools history programme which uses a number of familiar features and techniques.

*The Cholera is Coming* is a BBC Schools programme originally made for the British Social History Series, later reissued as part of *History File*. It is used at our school in support of the "Medicine through Time" component of the Schools History 13-16 project. The following synopsis is taken from the A4 sheet of Teacher's Notes:

"Cholera moves from India, through Europe to Sunderland in 1831. In Stockton-on-Tees an emergency Board of Health orders quarantine checks on ships and road travellers, gives instructions for whitewashing and clearing heaps of refuse, prepares a hospital and prays. Burial registers and a mass grave show that the town did not escape. One of Stockton's doctors was called when cholera struck the nearby weaving village of Hutton Rudby. He treats a patient with a common remedy and the village blocks itself off from the world. The programme concludes with a review of later knowledge of cholera's causes and by pointing to its importance in stimulating the public health movement." The notes continue: "Both the major stories are reconstructed from contemporary material... The main characters are drawn from these sources." (See picture 1.)

The characters are named by a hushed voice-over narration by James Bolam - the television voice of "the authentic North East" - which reinforces the here-and-now-ness of the scene. They are named presumably because their membership of the Board has been verified by reference to "contemporary material" - and yet there is no indication whether the words that are spoken by their screen personae are similarly "authentic". We are not told whether any, or all of the words spoken by any character

portrayed in the programme are fictional, or a verbatim account of what was said, and if so, who recorded it. The characters in the scene function in a number of ways within the programme; they represent their historical namesakes; they also act as stereotypes representing the views of their professions. Thus the Reverend piously offers prayers, the hard-nosed merchant (the only character speaking in a regional accent) is concerned only with profit, and the doctors are ceaseless seekers after enlightenment and, since part of the programme is structured as a "suspense story", they also have to function as vehicles carrying forward the momentum of that story.

The result is that contemporary source material, opinion and judgement are meshed within a continual storyline, with no reference made to any possible deficiencies in the evidence or to gaps or inconsistencies. No attempt is made to provide the young viewer with an opportunity to compare the various types of evidence introduced or to reach an independent conclusion. (See picture 2.)

This device, a kind of contrapuntal composition of modern day images harnessed with a narrative relating past events is a favourite in historical documentaries. Past and present are interwoven even more inextricably in other shots: for instance when a slow zoom into a window of a present day town hall dissolves into a reconstruction of the meeting held there in the 1830's. In themselves these devices are simply examples of the producer's vocabulary, but by isolating them, and discussing their function within the programme with pupils, the constructed nature of all "evidence" offered by television programmes becomes much more apparent.

Statistical "evidence" has made a great impact on history teaching in recent years. Pupils are actively encouraged to draw conclusions based on accurate records and other primary evidence. However, television is no less creative in its use of statistics than many other organizations. One of the pictures in this programme shows black dots progressively and dramatically overlaid on a (presumably) contemporary map, as the narrator tells of the remorseless spread of the disease.

However, no indication is given of the statistical significance of the rapidly superimposed dots, since we are not told what each dot represents. Although the impression given is that of statistical accuracy, it is difficult to

clash between farmers and hunters and all that entails in terms of relationships with nature, and attitudes to settlement, property and power. It's told in the poignant and moving story of Sitting Bull, Geronimo and Red Elk, as well as those of American travellers, pioneers and soldiers. Both books contain contemporary cartoons and photographs, and source-based exercises.

The difference between them is in length, and consequently depth of treatment. The Longman book has 22 pages, at something over 3p a page. Blackwell has 64, at just under 4p a page. They're both excellent. It would be pointless to buy both, but the choice between them is a hard one.

The USA in the Twentieth Century takes the story further, but it's a pity that in America's native inhabitants no longer feature. Settlement was property won out over life in a narrow balance, as it had to do through the sheer force of numbers of immigrants pouring into America. This is a book for GCSE written in a simple and straightforward style, its exercises encouraging comprehension of the texts more than the ability to evaluate sources. This will be very welcome where, as some candidates find it hard to handle anything but the most basic writing.

The story is discreditable but predictable; the story of a fundamental

portrayed in the programme are fictional, or a verbatim account of what was said, and if so, who recorded it. The characters in the scene function in a number of ways within the programme; they represent their historical namesakes; they also act as stereotypes representing the views of their professions. Thus the Reverend piously offers prayers, the hard-nosed merchant (the only character speaking in a regional accent) is concerned only with profit, and the doctors are ceaseless seekers after enlightenment and, since part of the programme is structured as a "suspense story", they also have to function as vehicles carrying forward the momentum of that story.

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clash between farmers and hunters and all that entails in terms of relationships with nature, and attitudes to settlement, property and power. It's told in the poignant and moving story of Sitting Bull, Geronimo and Red Elk, as well as those of American travellers, pioneers and soldiers. Both books contain contemporary cartoons and photographs, and source-based exercises.

The difference between them is in length, and consequently depth of treatment. The Longman book has 22 pages, at something over 3p a page. Blackwell has 64, at just under 4p a page. They're both excellent. It would be pointless to buy both, but the choice between them is a hard one.

The USA in the Twentieth Century takes the story further, but it's a pity that in America's native inhabitants no longer feature. Settlement was property won out over life in a narrow balance, as it had to do through the sheer force of numbers of immigrants pouring into America. This is a book for GCSE written in a simple and straightforward style, its exercises encouraging comprehension of the texts more than the ability to evaluate sources. This will be very welcome where, as some candidates find it hard to handle anything but the most basic writing.

The story is discreditable but predictable; the story of a fundamental

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3 Modern treatment of cholera

see what pupils are supposed to do with information presented in its way.

The narration draws attention to the modern treatment of cholera (see picture 3.) Unfortunately, the use of black and white still of an Asian woman with child cholera victims to accompany this narration is also firmly within the same millennialist, other black and white stills which is that of "the ignorant, primitive past". During the end-reconstructed scene of the meeting of the Board of Health, two doctors argue over the way the disease is transmitted. They are agreed, however, that it is spread by "filth and squalor". A teacher might well discuss with her pupils the often realized power of images selected as "simple examples".

When historical evidence is presented as a component of a television programme, it becomes something different; it becomes a piece of material, one of many threads forming a cloth of a very different shape to colour than any of its constituent parts. As such, irrespective of the original veracity of the "evidence" presented within the programme, all "historical" television programmes, whether they are described as "documentaries", might be more comfortably accommodated alongside historical novels. Rather than functioning as an objective collator and presenter of a range of sources of evidence, television reconstructs and re-presents historical evidence.

Television is an entertaining and informative medium, and it will continue to be used as a valuable resource in the classroom. However, it should not be unique among the array of evidential sources deployed by the history teacher in being consistently exempt from critical scrutiny.

We hope that the approach briefly outlined here may be useful to the history teacher who is aware of the need to look at television more critically, but who has perhaps been unused to a "point of entry".

Roy Twitchin is research officer of the Children's Understanding of Television Project, NFER. Michael Reece is head of department of history and social science, Havering School, ILEA.

## Beef and barbed wire

The American West 1840-1895. By R A Rees and S J Styles. Longman £3.95. 0 582 223970. The American West. By Jennifer and Martin Tucker. Basil Blackwell £2.45. 0 631 90024 1. The USA in the Twentieth Century. By Andrew Reid. Heinemann Educational £3.25. 0 435 31735 0.

Longman's *The American West* is written specifically for the *Enquiry in Depth* section of syllabuses based on the Schools History 13-16 Project, and so, presumably, since its approach and contents are so similar, is Basil Blackwell's. Both of them move from Plains Indians and the buffalo through Mormons and Manifest Destiny, fortune-hunters, sodabusters and homesteaders, beef and barbed wire, ultimately, inexorably, inevitably, to genocide. The Indians thought buffalo grew out of the ground, so plentiful were they, but they couldn't understand why Americans shot them and left them on the ground to rot. The Americans' reason wasn't horns or hides, of course, but to solve "the Indian problem", the blow dealt by the extermination of the buffalo more mortal than defeat at Wounded Knee.

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portrayed in the programme are fictional, or a verbatim account of what was said, and if so, who recorded it. The characters in the scene function in a number of ways within the programme; they represent their historical namesakes; they also act as stereotypes representing the views of their professions. Thus the Reverend piously offers prayers, the hard-nosed merchant (the only character speaking in a regional accent) is concerned only with profit, and the doctors are ceaseless seekers after enlightenment and, since part of the programme is structured as a "suspense story", they also have to function as vehicles carrying forward the momentum of that story.

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EXTRA

If we neglect American history we 'make fools of our ancestors'

## The nation and the States

RHODRI JEFFREYS-JONES

Mr John Wood, a teacher at Jedburgh High School in the Scottish Borders, recently observed that "the occasions when pupils can opt for some form of American history in Scottish schools are so few as to be statistically insignificant". He attributed this deficiency to a "marked bias in favour of 'useful' science subjects as opposed to the arts" which has always characterized the Scottish education system.

Is American history just another useless arts subject, doomed to justifiable neglect in England as well as in Scotland? If this is the prognosis, it makes fools of our ancestors. In the 1890s, Derby's MP, Samuel Plimsoll, launched an enquiry into the teaching of American history in elementary schools. In 1941, Duff Cooper, the Minister of Information, called for an urgent expansion of US history in secondary schools. Thanks to such efforts, American history components have gradually become a familiar sight at every level of British education.

Political utilitarianism lay at the root of the drive for expansion. The crusading Plimsoll (he gave us the Line) wanted to eliminate anti-American bias from school textbooks because he favoured Anglo-American co-operation. The 1941 Cabinet aimed to foster "mutual understanding between our two democracies" in order to win the "people's war". The present government's Dr Rhodes Boyson has welcomed post-war expansion of American history because "Anglo-American relations have benefited enormously as a result".

American history, in short, has often been seen as useful propaganda.

If it is vulnerable as a discipline, its vulnerability may well be connected with this fact. For the emphasis in propaganda can change. Indifference to the US, stemming from our Common Market membership, or anti-Americanism arising from unilateralist and other sentiments, may well erode support for the teaching of American history. From a different perspective, those purists who wish to strip history of its "relevance" may revive the early 19th-century academic aversion to all things transatlantic.

Pessimism has in recent years settled upon the American studies profession. Staffing cutbacks have occurred, and the American options available to pupils have contracted. Under its chairman Professor Howard Temperley, the British Association for American Studies has formed an American Studies Defence Committee, and in February this year Sir Peter Swinnerton-Dyer of the University Grants Committee singled out the field as one needing and meriting protection at the university level. In the meantime, Mr Chris Mantis, a teacher at the Chesham High School in Walsall, has completed a review of the examination boards' new GCSE curricula. His review suggests that American history provision at the schools level will be patchy in the future, unless a complementary measure of protection is afforded.

Uptake figures for the period since 1982 suggest, however, that there is a need to qualify despair with hope, while also making regional distinctions. Nine of the 10 British examining boards have supplied me with uptake figures (the tenth, the Northern Ireland Board, will be offering a GCSE American history module, but sent no historical uptake data). Amid the statistical shambles which British educational pragmatism has produced, it is possible to discern at least one geographic tendency, thanks to the existence of separate examination procedures for Scotland and Wales.

In Wales American history attracts small numbers which are declining for all courses. In Scotland, the O level American history course has been the least popular of four options on offer under the "Alternative" scheme; the Scottish Sixth Year Studies option is the third most popular out of 10, coming in far behind the study of the Soviet Union.

That class has entered the classroom might be one inference to be drawn from the anti-American tendency in the Celtic-socialist areas of Britain; in a complementary development, the present government's discouragement of Soviet studies and encouragement of US subjects appear to have met with greater success in relatively conservative England. One could query both the study of America in England and the study of Russia in Scotland on the utilitarian ground that one must know



Sitting Bull, chief of the Sioux. Pupils say that American history "helps them make sense of the world's problems and understand America and its stuff on TV"

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one's potential enemies, as well as one's presumed friends.

Scrutiny of the examination-board returns in one way confirms the fears of those who, even in England, lament American history's minor contribution to a general history curriculum of dwindling popularity. American history is the least popular O level area option in the case of the University of London Board; over the years, only about 2 per cent of the history candidates take up the Oxford and Cambridge Board A level American option; O level American history candidates have been low at the Oxford Delegacy, and have ceased altogether in the case of the Bristol-based Southern Universities' Joint Board.

In another way, however, the figures are less depressing. Take, for example, the Oxford Board's O level American history uptake - it comprises a steady 10 to 11 per cent of all history candidates. Can there be any one country outside the British Isles which secures so much attention? It is only when one compares the US uptakes with the continent of Europe that the state of American history appears weak.

Even more encouraging is the fact

that American history uptake in Britain as a whole is slightly increasing. This is a strong showing in the light of the uptake decline for history in general. In the striking case of entries for the University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate papers, the number of candidates of the O level post-Versailles world (inclusive of American) affairs course has in recent years held steady at around 4,750. The modern British history equivalent has slumped by 26 per cent. The Syndicate's overall A level history entries have declined by 22 per cent since 1982, while in the same period American history candidates have risen by over 50 per cent.

Such figures do not, in themselves, confirm the usefulness of studying American history. To some extent, they reflect political bias, linguistic laziness, and a distressingly widespread inclination to watch junk television of US provenance. Yet some teachers are convinced of the usefulness of the field. Ms Angela Gibson, for instance, head of history at Penwortham Girls' High School, Preston, indicates that this may also be the view of the consumer: her sixth-form pupils "mostly like it! They say it helps them make sense of the news, the world's problems [and] understand America and its stuff on TV".

The dictates of "relevance" and the need to see through the images on the box both help to explain why teachers and pupils opt for American history. If freedom of choice is as important a consideration in educational matters as many consider it to be in the economic and political spheres, then these preferences matter. Nor is this to ignore those who believe that educational subject matter should be selected solely for its intellectual challenge to the student. That challenge is to be found in abundance in writings on American history.

With the exceptions of Wales and Scotland, there is widespread interest in American history and faith in its usefulness. The problems confronting its teachers are not to do with its raison d'être, but with inculcating an outlook which is neither anti-American, nor unduly receptive to those US national biases which, naturally enough, permeate American books and media productions. The problems are also, and above all, to do with resourcing.

Rhodri Jeffreys-Jones is senior lecturer in history at Edinburgh University.

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EXTRA

May God forgive the Tudor family for what they have done to English history. Two years ago, we all dutifully cheered to celebrate Bosworth, "the final battle in the Wars of the Roses" as every schoolboy knows. Tiptoeing in its wake comes the 5th centenary of Stoke Field, which falls on June 16 this year. Stoke, which few people know anything about, since it is surely the most under-reported event of the millennium. The Tudors saw to that.

Shakespeare, having won the crown for Henry VII almost single-handed at Bosworth, makes no mention of it after chronicling the Wars of the Roses in great depth, thereby passing up a dramatic opportunity that is most unlike him. It is a safe bet that he was warned off.

The events of 1487 are perhaps second only to 1066 in their significance. It was a wretched year for Henry and saw the birth of political propaganda in the form of the Tudor myth. The fact that it has endured unquestioned for 500 years speaks for the manner in which it was perpetrated.

Motive? Oh yes, the first Tudor certainly had that. He had ended up with egg all over his royal face, the butt of ridicule, all but destroyed by a younger son masquerading as the "rightful" King Edward VI. The Yorkist plot was simple in concept, impossible to repeat in modern times yet made feasible by the absence of television's probing eye. Rumours, carefully leaked, began to spread in the last days of 1486 when the new monarch was scarcely settled in, continuing until the fierce encounter at Stoke Field.

Past generations have been duped, the victims of mis-teaching, fed with an accepted party-line which has conditioned the whole nation. History - with a capital H - has always been dominated in our educational system by the Tudors. Oddly, we never learnt all that much about Henry VII and there has always been this tendency to dismiss him as the dullest of the dynasty. We learnt that after Bosworth, Henry married Elizabeth of York, everyone married everyone else, peace reigned supreme and all was well with the world. This is not so much an over-simplification as a gross distortion.

A disaffected priest, known for his Yorkist sympathies, had bitterly waved goodbye to his career prospects. The Tudor usurper had made sure he had every possible challenger under lock and key. What if a daring rescue were to take place? Difficult, decided Richard Symonds, the priest. Still, who could argue if someone pretended to be an escaped prince of the House of York? Certainly, Henry VII would be hard put to deny it. Who would believe him?

Symonds, planning to coach some presentable child to impersonate the younger of the Princes in the Tower, had one particular boy in mind. It was Lambert Simnel, 10-year-old son of an Oxford artisan, a boy with all the



The legacy of Tudor propaganda

## Battle for the truth

ALAN WILKINSON

graces despite his lowly birth. Thus was born the Lambert Simnel plot, little more than a prank that got out of control as the day-dreaming became increasingly serious.

Assorted Yorkist fugitives in their safe houses were brought into the project, embellishing the plot with fresh ideas, chiefly to give the young prodigy a new identity. Edward Earl of Warwick, the son of Clarence. The rumours gathered momentum and when the King paraded the real Warwick before the people of London it was seen by many as an act of desperation.

Margaret of Burgundy, as senior survivor of the House of York, gave credence to the Simnel pretensions by declaring him as her nephew, although it was another nephew, John Earl of Lincoln, who was earmarked for Henry's replacement on the throne. There can be little doubt that if the plot had succeeded, young Lambert Simnel would have been disposed of as an embarrassment.

After careful coaching, the boy was whisked across to the Irish Pale, ever a hotbed of Yorkist support, being crowned in Dublin on Whit Sunday using a coronet taken from a statuette of the Madonna. It was a moment of great triumph, with the lad being carried shoulder high by the exuberant Irish.

To make a serious bid for the crown, the challengers needed a firm profes-

sional backbone and they got it. As the Duchess Margaret's son-in-law, the Emperor Maximilian owed her a favour or two. At her request, he loaned her 2,000 mercenaries under the command of the redoubtable Martin Schwartz, men who were much more experienced in warfare than



Henry VII, creator of the Tudor myth

anything Henry VII could put into the field.

As Clarence's supposed son, the Irish took young Lambert to their hearts and were eager to lend their weight to support the Yorkist bid. A large fleet carried the force across the sea to the mainland, disembarking at the official record tells us, at Fouldrey

on the coast of Lancashire.

Since historians have no idea where this Fouldrey is, they are content to present it as a bald fact. But I know. It is called Piel today and I was born and raised on the neighbouring island of Walney. In my education at Barrow Grammar School, no one had ever told me that the last invasion of England had in fact taken place at our home town. Instead, our history had come from dull "approved" textbooks. They called that education, without recourse to the Trades Descriptions Act.

The "two nations" syndrome existed 500 years ago, as now, the north being in favour of the House of York. Accordingly, the Earls led their army through the north on a recruiting trip, crossing the Pennines to Masham, putting the fear of God into the population of Lancashire and actually drawing first blood in a night encounter at Tadcaster, another battle that is never mentioned today.

South into Nottinghamshire they marched, fording the Trent and taking up position on top of an escarpment at the village of East Stoke, outside Newark. This has to be mentioned, since so many "authorities" have located the battle in the Potteries.

There is not a lot that can be learnt about the battle which ensued. The King's herald, in an account that did full justice to the trivialities of the march from Kenilworth, dismisses the course of the battle in just one sent-

ence. We know, then, that it lasted for three hours before noon on that warm Saturday. Credit is also given to the excellence of Schwartz and his mercenaries.

Without noble Bedford, Henry's army would have been crushed. Finally, the White Rose house collapsed like a pack of cards. In the general flight to reach the river, hundreds perished in a waste still known as the Red Clutter. Stoke Field is a site which all history teachers should be compelled to visit, yet it is known to very few, even in Nottinghamshire.

This is a battle which the shaken king badly wanted to forget, which is why it has always been played down, with attention diverted to the glory of Bosworth, even though the death toll at Stoke must have been seven or eight times that at Ambion Hill. The opportunity soon presented itself, for Henry controlled the new technology (printing). An Italian named Polydore Vergil was brought to court and invited by Henry himself to write a history of England. Vergil was "set up" just as surely as Lambert Simnel had been. Thus was born the Tudor myth, the beginnings of political propaganda.

Henry's marriage to Elizabeth of York, far from uniting the nation, caused anger because he would not have her crowned Queen. Far from being in control of the deteriorating situation, he was taken by surprise due to the invasion via his back door. Stoke was anything but a minor skirmish. Apart from the dead, Henry knighted more than 50 of his best captains on the battlefield, surely token of his great relief. And what of the Yorkists? supposedly rag-tag army? It had come perilously close to victory, thanks to superior artillery.

While it suited the Tudor purpose to depict the enemy as foreign invaders, it was patently absurd to pretend that loyal English lads would not join them in their cause. In a sense, this was ballad-rigging by the king. It angers me, personally, to think that the men of Furness, along with thousands of northerners, fought and died at Stoke Field and yet their very presence is expunged from the record books of expediency. Henry Tudor gave no thought to the messenger who rode through the night to bear tidings to news-hungry York, or that his tale would be taken down in the city archives, giving the lie to much of what Vergil wrote.

For 500 years, English children have been mis-taught and denied their true heritage. Either we settle for the safe option and maintain the status quo, simply to save printing costs, or we dig out the mess we're in. If the "real" south wants to go on believing fairy tales, why should we disillusion them? But the cleared north must ensure that henceforth they look beyond Polydore Vergil for the truth and teach our history.

Adapted by Alan Wilkinson from his book *The Secret Battle*, to be published later this month by Midas of Nottingham, 20 Fletcher Gate, Nottingham NG1 2F2 at £7.50.

## Ways to war

*Twentieth Century World in Focus: The Road to Sarajevo*. 0 333 43825 6. The Path to Destruction. 43826 4. By Harry Mills. Macmillan, £2.95 each. The First World War. Compiled by Margaret Sanderson. HMSO £3.50. 0 11 493339.

It's still not easy to find GCSE materials suitable for the lower end of the ability range, particularly where the subject matter itself is difficult or complicated. Harry Mills' books on the origins of the two world wars are worth considering, though they are largely just extractions from his *Twentieth Century World in Focus*, slightly simplified in places. The approach is source-based, and so are the suggested exercises which make up a sizeable proportion of the text. Mr Mills includes all the usual documents, maps and statistics, and, though more and more *Punch* back numbers are familiar as GCSE materials proliferate, some less well-known cartoons. There's the goose-stepping Goosey Gander, for instance, Pax Germanica alive and kicking, by heavy arms and ammunition, wandering "only through the Rhineland". Price, 25p each. 0 11 493339.

*The Armada: The Decisive Battle*. Nathaniel Harris. Just Published. The Destruction of Pompeii and Herculaneum. C.A. Hills. June 1987. The Easter Rising. Nathaniel Harris. May 1987. Hiroshima. Stephen Hoare. May 1987. The July Plot. Nigel Richardson. The Last Day in Saigon. John Griffiths. Pearl Harbor. Nathaniel Harris.

Destruction doesn't have quite the impact *20th Century World History in Focus*, whose format was so clear, had. It's a pity that misprints such as "Blitzkrieg" and "Barbarossa" couldn't be avoided, and surely a "Diktat" isn't just a "peace settlement imposed on the loser by a victorious nation following a war", as the glossary would have it? *The Road to Sarajevo* has avoided such misprints, and doesn't appear so crowded - perhaps the road to Sarajevo was clearer than the overgrown path to destruction in the Second World War.

Grateful as we are for suggested GCSE exercises, sometimes it's also refreshing to find material which comes on its own, neat. The Scottish Office has produced a collection from Mr Mills' series (designed particularly for GCSE purposes) presents topics or periods through the medium of personality. Brief biographies of, in each case, a dozen or more key figures are drawn into a common focus by a unifying introduction and amplified by other more general material. I'm sceptical at first about this mode of approach because of the wide gaps I feel it must leave, I was won over on

EXTRA

## GCSE history and the slower learners

# Welsh alternative

STUART BROOMFIELD

Many history teachers will have been alarmed when they looked at their GCSE specimen papers. Was it really the examination that, according to the National Criteria, "will be designed not for any particular proportion of the ability range, but for all candidates whatever their ability relative to other candidates?" ... the specimen papers that have so far appeared are inappropriate for the more able pupils. (*Classroom History* Vol. 1, October 1986.)

In July 1986 a seminar paper entitled "History and the Slower Learner at 16+" was delivered at the annual conference of the Association of History Teachers in Wales. Very similar sentiments to those in the quotation were expressed. It was also feared that the decision to take GCSE down to 90 per cent of the ability range threatened the continued existence of a worthwhile experiment being carried out by the WJEC - a certificated course for pupils who did not find the traditional examination courses appropriate to their needs.

During the first term of GCSE teaching the fears expressed in *Classroom History*, Vol. 1 have been consistently reinforced through classroom experience, meetings with other teachers and by the contents of textbooks specifically written for GCSE courses. At present GCSE history appears to be most appropriate for the more able, former O level pupils. In Wales the WJEC Certificate of Education is beginning to find a new relevance. Enquiries abound from teachers whose pupils are struggling with the GCSE syllabus.

It is not the intention of this article to run-down GCSE courses, but to propose strategies that will try to help classroom teachers overcome the current problems posed. It is accepted that the aim of providing one course for 90 per cent of our pupils is a laudable objective, especially when coupled with the assessment philosophy of encouraging all pupils to demonstrate "what they know, understand and can do". At present, however, there can be little doubt that theory and practice are scarcely compatible.

Strategy should be twofold. First, it should not be accepted that GCSE courses should be rigidly new orthodoxies. Teachers have a role to play in ensuring that many of the current GCSE courses are made more applicable to a wider ability range. Second, there remains a responsibility to pupils at the lower end of the ability range to provide worthwhile educational experiences to meet their needs. There are some who argue that it was never the intention to teach GCSE courses to 90 per cent of the ability range at this stage, but that in the long-term 90 per cent of the pupils should be capable of achieving standards now attained by our top 60 per cent. This seems more

realistic, but if it is the case then alternative courses are required as bridges to the GCSE courses.

It is necessary to examine how present GCSE courses can be adapted to meet the needs of the slower learner. At the root of the issue is the question of language capabilities, especially reading levels. This is confronted in two main areas - the phrasing and structure of questions asked, and the use of evidence.

According to the SEC booklet on GCSE history, the favoured form of assessment is the "stepped question". These should be structured in such a way as to enable all pupils to produce some degree of knowledge and understanding. Unfortunately for many pupils, the confusion arises when they cannot understand the phrasing and the meaning of the question. What is revealed is the level of literacy, not their assimilation of historical skills.

A further problem arises from the recognition that the use of evidence is central to history teaching. Evidence-based questions, rightly provided to the basis of most examination papers to be introduced with GCSE. As yet, however, there seems to be no clear policy on the extent that it is legitimate to link with written evidence in order to make the sense accessible to a wide ability range of pupils. The current emphasis on 20th-century history increases the problem. Most political speeches require a high level of reading ability and complicated political terms are often difficult to simplify for pupils.

One means of circumventing the problem of reading levels is to assess orally. As far as I am aware the WJEC is the only examination board that has taken a step along this road by introducing an oral as part of their course-work assessment. Experience of an oral examination which comprises part of the WJEC Certificate of Education assessment has shown that many pupils reveal a degree of knowledge unlikely to have been ascertained on a traditional written paper. Oral work is now a vital part of procedures for English GCSE and it would seem natural that it should be used in most other disciplines, especially one so closely concerned with the use of language as history.

It is vital that classroom teachers in England and Wales convey their experiences, concerns and views to the examination boards at this early stage. A conference of the Association of History Teachers in Wales on February 28th this year specifically on the new WJEC Modular Scheme was able to generate a substantial degree of feedback to the Board based on teachers' classroom experience, and there are clear indications that the sample papers initially distributed will be changed in the light of teacher

comment. The exchange of views in a constructive manner is highly encouraging, but the fact still remains that it will be some time before the GCSE courses and examination papers are suitable for the wide range of ability desired by the Secretary of State for Education. In Wales it is fortunate that there is already in existence an examination geared to meet the needs of the bottom 40 per cent of the ability range - the WJEC Certificate of Education.

The history component is entitled "Contemporary Society - Wales in the Twentieth Century World". The course is based around four booklets which include aspects of local, national and international history. The emphasis of the course is on pupils relating their own experiences to those of people in the past. The course is assessed primarily via continuous assessment plus a final oral examination.

Although there are weaknesses in both course books and in the assessment, a serious effort has nevertheless been made to meet the needs of the slower learner and enthusiastic responses have come from teachers and pupils. The scheme has been instrumental in generating useful resource materials and has provided teachers who often merely "child-minded" non-examined classes with a reasonably structured course. Many pupils currently floundering with the new GCSE course would gain a more rewarding educational experience following this course.

The WJEC Certificate's adoption in many schools in Wales has meant that the lower end of the ability range have the opportunity to demonstrate what they know, understand and can do. Unfortunately there are some heads and administrators who rigidly insist that GCSE be taught to 90 per cent of the ability range and the frustration of teachers in this dilemma was clearly shown at the AHTW day school on February 28. The adoption of GCSE to be more suitable across a wide ability range will take some time. Clear policy statements are needed from the DES and the Welsh Office on exactly which categories of pupils GCSE is intended for. If it is 90 per cent now, then the SEC needs to start its work all over again and review the syllabuses with reference to the slower learner. If it is 90 per cent in the long term, proposals about teaching the slower learner in the meantime are needed.

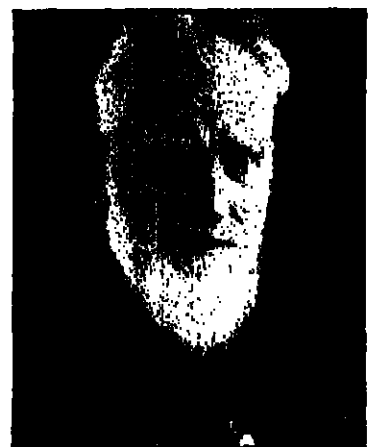
In Wales it was fortunate that an alternative course was in existence, although this was largely accidental. As far as GCSE is concerned, the slower learners in our schools can be termed "history's forgotten children", as very little serious consideration appears to have been given to their requirements.

Dr Stuart Broomfield is head of history at St Cyprian's Comprehensive School, Caerphilly.

## Edwardian cocktail

*Living through History series: Radicals, Railways and Reform: Britain 1815-51*. By Richard James. 0 7134 5264 1. The Scramble for Africa. By Trevor Rowell. 5200 5. The Edwardian Era. By Geoffrey Trease. 4919 5. The Roaring Twenties. By Graham Mitchell. 5201 3. Batsford £7.95 each.

Capitalizing on the realization that students are, on the whole, more interested in people than in ideas - and are, therefore, best led to ideas through people - the Living Through History series (designed particularly for GCSE purposes) presents topics or periods through the medium of personality. Brief biographies of, in each case, a dozen or more key figures are drawn into a common focus by a unifying introduction and amplified by other more general material. I'm sceptical at first about this mode of approach because of the wide gaps I feel it must leave, I was won over on



George Bernard Shaw

closer examination by the very reasonable degree of inclusiveness that the careful selection and balancing of personalities manages to achieve. An example. The *Edwardian Era* (in the hands of the versatile Geoffrey Trease) whose skilful transmission of history through fiction has delighted writers of

young people) is represented by Arthur Balfour, Edward Elgar, Rudyard Kipling, Admiral "Jack" Fisher, Jack London, G.B. Hardy, Lloyd George, H.G. Wells, G.B. Shaw, Margot Asquith, Ottoline Morrell and Sylvia Pankhurst. Most of these stars have their own little attendant galaxies so that the range of representative celebrities is in fact fairly wide. David Mitchell's constellation of Twentieth personalities mixing such quintessential Bright Young Things as Brian Howard and Nancy Cunard with Marie Stopes and that most puritanical of Home Secretaries, Sir William Joynson-Hicks (or "Jix"), constitutes a particularly brilliant and heady cocktail.

The books are illustrated verbally by many lively quotations from contemporary sources - and pictorially by numerous, mostly unacknowledged prints, photos and cartoons. All this material is very attractively presented and those who cannot find interest and stimulus in it must indeed be hard to please.

Martin Fagg

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# Survival or training?

## Leap in the dark

MARTIN BOOTH  
GWENIFER SHAWYER  
RICHARD BROWN

The day before teaching practice was the worst day I've spent for years. I was miserable. Such a sentiment is not untypical of the majority of the postgraduate historians we are following in our "Training of History Teachers" research project. Teaching practice looms as the great unknown, the testing point of the course, the moment when idealism, commitment and enthusiasm must be turned into the hard currency of classroom practice.

It is the bridging of this gap between theory and practice that has made this difficult when flung into the hurly-burly of their teaching practice schools. Some tend to revert to the traditional patterns of teaching that they experienced as pupils (our research shows that the vast majority of the 1986 intake had been taught history at school in a limited, didactic way). Notions of developing children's historical thinking can fly out of the window; survival becomes the name of the game.

Why should this be so, now that our training institutions are so committed to the marriage of theory and practice? The tutors are unanimous that their courses must be concerned with giving students both a theoretical understanding of the nature and progress of children's historical thinking and the teaching strategies by which such thinking can be developed in the classroom; and our observation of institution-directed sessions shows how successfully the tutors combine the two.

Typical, for example, of history methods work in the first term of the course at one institution was a Wednesday spent working in a large comprehensive school. The course tutor was with his six students. Together they had prepared materials for work with both an able and less able third year class on the causes of the First World War. Group work was

organized, the students shared responsibility for the teaching and afterwards were able to evaluate the lesson both in terms of the levels of understanding the children had shown and the more immediate practicalities of classroom control and management. The course tutor was with the students throughout the process of planning, execution and evaluation, not as judge or assessor but as someone who was part of the team *primus inter pares*, there to encourage the reflection on theory and its relationships to practice.

The school history teachers who are mainly responsible for the students during their teaching practice see their role in a rather different light. Their goals are more limited:

"I have got no doubt that students cover the subject academically; what I do doubt is their ability to manage a class. . . I'm more interested in their management of a class than the content. . . I mainly see my part of the process as giving the students a lot of practical help, making sure that they do the nitty-gritty correctly. . . I certainly don't believe in imposing any philosophy of my own on the students. . . I see it more as a kind of 'well that is not going to work is it?' - or 'you made a real mess of that' - or 'you ideally I think the job of actually tutoring should be done in schools rather than training institutions; the teacher tutors would be a step forward in training teachers.'"

This head of department's comment underlines a widespread feeling that it is only the teacher at the "chalk-face" who can effectively help the student - and that the teacher-supervisor's main task is to teach the craft of classroom

management. Most school supervisors have little idea of what the training institution has actually done or how they can build on the experiences so as to develop the student teacher's skills and understanding. As one head of department said "I have no idea at all what the training institution tutor's views on the teaching of history are. . . The comment which followed relegated the training institution to the realm of impractical idealism: 'when I was doing the education degree I had this idea that it's all very nice what they are saying but to translate that into teaching 42X might not work. . . The implication was clear: the student could forget what he had learned at the training institution, theory had little or nothing to say to practice."

With such misunderstanding about the role and aim of the training institution it is hard to see how the insistence by the DES on partnership with schools is to become a reality. Of course institution lecturers are going into schools as teachers for short periods to get their "recent and relevant experience"; of course senior teachers are sitting on the new professional committees which are planning the initial teacher education courses; of course teachers are involved in interviewing and selecting candidates. But all this will remain so much window dressing unless certain other changes take place.

First, the training institutions must encourage more dialogue between themselves and the schools. Tutors must be aware of the extent to which school history departments are concerned themselves with the development of children's historical thinking. Heads of department must be clear about the purpose and extent of the training the student has so far received.

Second, school history teachers need far more guidance about how the student should be supervised. There is a tacit assumption that supervision is something any teacher can do: All the student needs is a sympathetic ear, a shoulder to cry on and a few "tips for teachers". We are convinced that teachers need structured, subject-specific strategies to help them develop their students' (and, dare we say it, their own) teaching skills. Of course history teaching requires good classroom management strategies but these are only the means, not the end - teaching history. Training that aims at this level is merely giving the student a survival kit. Helping students to become reflective practitioners who are able to marry theory and practice is as much the responsibility of the supervising teachers as of the tutors.

We envisage here schools and training institutions together developing a series of exercises which will help the supervising history teacher to form an effective partnership not only with the institution but with the school in a triangular relationship in which each could see the value and purpose of what the other is doing. Such exercises would focus on aspects of teaching history. For example, an empathy exercise would help supervisor and student focus on the historical problem to be understood, the materials to be used and the possible range of outcomes in terms of expected pupil-learning. It would also help the supervisor to evaluate the student on both theory and practice, once the lesson had been given.

All this, of course, presupposes a third factor, a vital prerequisite for creating effective partnership: the time and incentive to realize these goals. Initial Training at the moment is pretty low on the school teachers' agendas, pressed as they are by the demands of GCSE, TVEI, profiling and all the other initiatives being thrust on schools. Unless head teachers and local authorities recognize and make allowance in terms of timetable and salary for the crucial role that school teachers must play in initial training, all the exhortations of DES circulars and the efforts of training institutions will remain so much pie in the sky. Training will remain at the level it is at the moment: a recipe for survival.

Martin Booth, Gwenifer Shawyer and Richard Brown are members of the ESRC Project Training of History Teachers, University of Cambridge Dept. of Education.

# Is it possible to examine empathy?

## Feeling doubtful

ANN LOW-BEER

Can you empathize? Faced with a question which begins "You are Joseph Chamberlain. . ." (worth 25 marks), I have difficulty. Even the one which starts "You are an active suffragette. . ." does not tempt me. Yet I have shared Pugh's experience of "walking gaily along wondering what everybody else was doing, and what it felt like being somebody else". And if I were given the testimony of a real suffragette, her words and experience, I might be more than won over. Is this empathy, and can it be done with Joseph Chamberlain for examiners?

There is a widespread assumption that the new GCSE examinations require all pupils "to exercise powers of empathy" (Objective 4, Associated Examining Board). Mercifully, the authors of the National Criteria wisely eschewed use of the word empathy. The relevant objective is that: "All candidates will be expected to show an ability to look at events and issues from the perspective of people in the past."

My understanding of empathy has been focused by a recent booklet, widely recommended and produced by the Southern Region Examining Board on *Empathy in History*. This does not reassure me that the concept is properly understood, that it should be taught, or that the criteria for assessing it have any validity. That eight different authors contributed to the booklet may account for some of the confusion, but the resulting muddle suggests more serious flaws, to be multiplied across the country by 1988.

The term "empathy" has only come into use quite recently and derives especially from some work of the Schools History Project. It is not true that "volumes have been written on the nature of historical empathy" (SREB p 61). One major article by D Shemilt is remarkably opaque, and I find the "Desiderata for teaching and assessing empathy" unintelligible. I am seriously misled to suggest that empathy is a concept "as central to history as are subtraction and multiplication in mathematics" (SREB p 10). If empathy is an historical concept it does not function like these mathematical comparisons.

Historians discuss *imagination*. It is symptomatic that much of what is said about empathy derives from a well-known passage in which Collingwood explores imagination in history. His views apply best, perhaps, to historical biography. The influence, and the limits of this view are well put in a recent discussion emphasizing that the perspective of the time for historical understanding (p 121). *The Pursuit of History* by J Tosh (Longman).

Imagination is a central feature of human thought which in history is often taken to include empathy. But has much wider functions encompassing: 1) interpretive thought; 2) thought about practical situations (how Stonehenge was built or a medieval castle defended); 3) a synthesizing "picture" of diverse information. It is clearly important in "reconstructing the past".

Imagination and empathy are frequently inextricably entwined. Some of the "exercises in empathy" could be intelligibly re-written as exercises in historical imagination. The HMI book *History in the primary and secondary years* equates "empathy" with "imaginative reconstruction". The SREB booklet is confusingly ambivalent: "at all levels of empathy the use of imagination is crucial" (p 10). Again "the operation of every stage" (p 14) but on the opposite page (p 15) pupils should "appreciate the need for equalizing imaginative reconstruction with empathy". It seems that the pursuit of "empathy" eventually leads in another direction.

It is clear that empathy involves feelings: "the engagement of one's own feelings and values is a necessary foundation for empathetic understanding" (SREB p 4) and "knowledge alone is not a sufficient condition for empathy" (SREB p 43). At bottom empathy is an attempt to connect with the feelings of past people. The first glimmering of empathy can perhaps be

taken as the realization that people at the time in question did have feelings. . . (SREB p 42).

However, actual knowledge about how people felt does not necessarily lead to empathy. "Knowing what life was like in the trenches and being able to describe conditions is not the same as empathizing with the soldiers. . ." (SREB p 11). This leads readily to the requirement that pupils must "invent" the feelings of the historical person with whom they must empathize: "What do you think Elizabeth Whiting would have felt?" (SREB p 56). Despite this freedom it seems that "empathetic material could be taught, rote-learned and re-gurgitated tested" (SREB p 45).

The ultimate extension of all this is that pupils must empathize with fictional characters who are given prior individualized names and context (SREB p 23). In this instance the Holocaust is replayed through invented families but many schools have other examples. The exercise becomes one of inventing the feelings of fictional characters with whom empathy is required.

In the SREB booklet, and elsewhere, an underlying assumption is that "empathy" is always a "good thing". This needs questioning: sample 6 (SREB p 38), provides an instance of an exercise which focuses on the feelings of an Elizabethan lawyer who in 1583: "had his right hand cut off with a cleaver driven through the wrist by the force of a mallet, upon a scaffold in the market place at Westminster". This is a very teacher-controlled "role-machine" exercise in which information is given to pupils in snippets and they are required (forced?) to respond to each bit. The emotions aroused are not always predictable and might be both harmful and very genuine.

How then is "genuine" empathy to be examined? The model offered here is that there are five stages in the development of empathetic thinking. There is a "suggested hierarchy" from which it is possible "to define levels of empathetic response for assessment purposes" (SREB p 41), which can be used as the basis on which to construct the mark-scheme. Has this hierarchy, derived from work in the Schools History Project, been tested by any other, more sceptical, group of examiners? Do the levels relate to the amount or kind of information pupils were given?

It is particularly difficult to accept that "stereotyped" and "differentiated" empathy are in a developmental hierarchy. Should pupils be taught about this difference? There is some suggestion that the required hierarchy of levels only occurs if pupils are not told that "differentiated empathy" is the higher level: "these levels of thinking can be recognized. . . where the required response has not been taught in advance." (SREB p 13). In assessing "events and issues from the perspective of people in the past" it might well be of crucial importance to know something both of the stereotype of the time and of the individual views, to discern what is a typical or an unusual response in a particular period. Historians do this with or without empathy.

But then historians, who create "history", have been neglected in most of the discussion of empathy in schools. Indeed the SREB booklet suggests on the first page that history is impossible: "Even the most objective of facts such as an ancient eclipse of the sun depends for its historical meaning on the perceptions of the people of the time. . . We can rarely rely on inferences about it based on our own 20th century perceptions." This amazing statement ought to signal clearly to everyone involved that pursuit of "empathy" for examinations leads us straight through the looking-glass. I am practising empathy with Joseph Chamberlain in order to get those 25 marks, but I know it is not genuine and wonder if it is history.

I D Shemilt: Beauty and the Philosopher: Empathy in History and Classroom, *Learning History*, Heinemann, 1984.  
Ann Low-Beer is a lecturer in the School of Education, University of Bristol.

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Trade Union membership encouraged.  
An equal opportunity employer.  
**WARWICKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL** (05828) 13018

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### Craft, Design & Technology

#### Heads of Department

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### EALING

**LONDON BOROUGH OF EALING**  
**EDUCATION SERVICE**  
Greenford High School, Greenford, Middlesex UB6 9LX  
Group 11, 12-18 Mixed Comprehensive, No. on roll: 915. 4th Form 146.  
Head: Mrs. M.M. Oliver, M.S. 13018  
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## 63

**SUSSEX  
HND COLLEGE  
11th, W. Sussex GU28**

**1** for September 1987 a  
for Business Studies  
of (full-time post). En-  
according to qualifications  
experience with a Seaford  
ment. Possibility of  
moderation.

Further details and ap-  
plication form apply to: The  
Director's Secretary,  
) 182224

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**s of Department**

## ULME GRAMMAR OL FOR GIRLS

er Road, Oldham,  
shire OL8 4NX  
1-624 2525  
ria, aged 7-18  
for September 1987  
perienced English gradu-  
take responsibility for  
Department and to teach  
about the school to  
E. A-level and O-  
entry level. Burnham  
S. A willingness to enter  
the life of the school is  
essential.  
sibly by letter to the Head-  
master, enclosing a full curri-  
criculum vitae and three refer-  
ences of two referees.  
(4) 182418

to Headmistress, Hollin-  
gton, 67 Pont Street,  
a RWLY QRP, Tel. 41.

OLK  
TON COLLEGE  
North Woodard School.  
Birmingham, Ala. 35217  
starting for September.  
HEAD OF ENGLISH  
Interested in drama. An  
actor in college. He  
will also be essential  
at present under review  
the lines of the Baker  
communications with Curricu-  
lums, together with the  
of two references to the  
water. Carleton Society  
Norwich, Norfolk  
4JD (Tel: Norwich  
6) from whom further  
the post are avail-  
95655) 18418

**COLLEGE  
SWITCH**  
November 1987  
**UP**

## School of 700

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**SEX.**

School  
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l. Closing date

(14381)







## PUTNEY HIGH SCHOOL

35 Putney Hill, London SW15 6BH  
Telephone: 01-788 4886

Independent Girls' School (G.P.D.S.T.).  
580 girls, 130 in Sixth Form.  
225 in Junior School.

**HEAD OF PHYSICS.** Burnham Scale 3. Experienced and enthusiastic graduate, to teach throughout the school to Advanced Level and University entrance standard. Physics is popular and successful at GCSE, and there are strong Advanced Level groups in an expanding Sixth Form. Some Electronics would be an advantage. Well qualified candidates may also apply for **HEAD OF SCIENCE** (Scale 4).

**ECONOMICS.** An enthusiastic, experienced graduate teacher to introduce Economics into the expanding Sixth Form. GCSE and A Level courses, with some Economics/Politics/Debating in the Upper School. Experience with computers an advantage. Burnham Scale 2.

**MATHEMATICS.** A well qualified graduate to teach at all levels throughout the school. The post could suit either a first time applicant or a more experienced teacher. An ability to teach Statistics at A Level and willingness to help with Computer Studies would be an advantage. Burnham Scale 1.

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION.** An enthusiastic specialist to teach throughout the school. High standard of Netball essential, also Gymnastics, Aerobics, Health and Fitness, Tennis, Badminton. Applicants must be willing to participate fully in extra curricular activities: clubs, teams and matches. Please state second teaching subject. Burnham Scale 1.

**INFRANTS/JUNIOR TEACHER.** Urgently required for the Summer Term. Full time or from 11.00am-3.45pm. Burnham Scale 1.

**HEAD OF STRINGS.** To teach Violin 2 days a week and some Piano if possible. Also to take Strings Sectional rehearsals and Chamber Groups if required, in a thriving Music Department.

Applications with curriculum vitae, names, addresses and telephone numbers of two referees should be addressed to the Headmistress. (03409)



The American Community  
School Limited Cobham,  
Surrey/Hillingdon,  
Middlesex

## Teachers required for August 1987

Physics, General Science, English, Maths,  
Elementary classrooms, ESL, Dean of Students,  
Guidance Counsellor, Music, History and Social  
Studies.

The school follows an American curriculum and  
uses American textbooks, relevant experience,  
therefore, will be required. Teachers experienced in  
teaching for the international baccalaureate level  
are requested to apply.

Please send resume and covering letter to the  
Personnel Manager, American Community  
School Limited, Heywood, Portsmouth Road,  
Cobham, Surrey KT11 1BL. (0360)



## Strathallan School

Perth

H.M.C. 11-18 years: 550 Boys: 120 Girls

Required for Sept. '87 - or as soon as possible thereafter - suitably qualified persons to teach the following subjects throughout the School or only up to 'O' level if preferred. At least one position to be combined as Tutor to a girls' boarding house.

**BIOLOGY** (and possibly another subject)  
**CHEMISTRY** (and possibly one other subject)  
**GEOGRAPHY** (and possibly one other subject)  
**MATHEMATICS** (and possibly computing)

These appointments are the result of expanding departments and teaching experience is not essential and there is considerable flexibility.

Further details from the Headmaster, Strathallan School, Forquard, Perth PH2 8EG to whom applicants should write enclosing a C.V. and the names of two referees. (0430)

## INDEPENDENT EDUCATION

(continued)

### Other Assistants

#### BERKSHIRE

##### WELLINGTON COLLEGE

Required for September 1987 to join a lively and successful department. Applicants must be graduates who are capable of teaching up to A Level; there may be the opportunity of teaching in the Junior School. The Headmaster is a boarding school and will contribute to the many extra-curricular activities. Applications with curriculum vitae, names, addresses and telephone numbers of two referees should be sent to the Headmaster, Wellington College, Crowthorne, Berks. as soon as possible, from which further details can be obtained. (08959) 184924

#### BRADFORD

##### BRADFORD GIRLS' SCHOOL

Required for September 1987 to teach Physics to GCSE and A Level and to help with extra-curricular activities. Salary according to qualifications and experience. Further particulars available on request. Please apply to the Headmistress, Bradford Girls' School, Squire Lane, Bradford BD9 6RS giving two names for reference. Closing Date April 24th. (05418) 184924

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#### CAMBRIDGESHIRE

##### THE KING'S SCHOOL

Required for September 1987 to teach Physics to GCSE and A Level and to help with extra-curricular activities. Salary according to qualifications and experience. Further particulars available on request. Please apply to the Headmaster, The King's School, Squire Lane, Bradford BD9 6RS giving two names for reference. Closing Date April 24th. (05417) 184924

#### CANTERBURY

##### ST. ANDREW'S SCHOOL

Required for September 1987 to teach Physics to GCSE and A Level and to help with extra-curricular activities. Salary according to qualifications and experience. Further particulars available on request. Please apply to the Headmaster, St. Andrew's School, Squire Lane, Bradford BD9 6RS giving two names for reference. Closing Date April 24th. (05417) 184924

#### CROYDON

##### WHITGIFT SCHOOL

Required for September 1987 to teach Physics to GCSE and A Level and to help with extra-curricular activities. Salary according to qualifications and experience. Further particulars available on request. Please apply to the Headmaster, Whitgift School, Squire Lane, Bradford BD9 6RS giving two names for reference. Closing Date April 24th. (05417) 184924

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## EAST SUSSEX

### BUCKSWOOD ORANGE

From September we wish to appoint a qualified teacher of Chemistry to take 10-15 year olds and combine a friendly atmosphere with a strong emphasis on traditional standards. The post offers an excellent opportunity to join a highly motivated staffroom in a boarding school. Possible single accommodation if required. Apply in writing, together with c.v. and the names of two referees, to the Principal, (08959) 184924

## ESSEX

### ST. ANDREW'S SCHOOL

Required for September 1987 to teach Physics to GCSE and A Level and to help with extra-curricular activities. Salary according to qualifications and experience. Further particulars available on request. Please apply to the Headmaster, St. Andrew's School, Squire Lane, Bradford BD9 6RS giving two names for reference. Closing Date April 24th. (05417) 184924

## HAMPSHIRE

### CHURCHILL COLLEGE

Required for September 1987 to teach Physics to GCSE and A Level and to help with extra-curricular activities. Salary according to qualifications and experience. Further particulars available on request. Please apply to the Headmaster, Churchill College, Squire Lane, Bradford BD9 6RS giving two names for reference. Closing Date April 24th. (05417) 184924

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## KENT

### FARRINGTONS SCHOOL

From September we wish to appoint a qualified teacher of Chemistry to take 10-15 year olds and combine a friendly atmosphere with a strong emphasis on traditional standards. The post offers an excellent opportunity to join a highly motivated staffroom in a boarding school. Possible single accommodation if required. Apply in writing, together with c.v. and the names of two referees, to the Principal, (08959) 184924

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# PREPARATORY SCHOOLS

**ESSEX**  
**ST JOHN'S SCHOOL**  
 100, Millers Road, Essex  
 Required for September 1987. A teacher of primary subjects to be in charge of the school. The school is a Junior School. Apply direct to the school with a letter of application and C.V. (043534) 205624

**ESSEX**  
**CRANBROOK COLLEGE**  
 11000  
 Independent primary and secondary day school for boys. Founded in 1967. The school is a Junior School. Apply direct to the school with a letter of application and C.V. (043534) 205624

**HAMPSHIRE**  
**ST SWITHUN'S JUNIOR SCHOOL**  
 Winchester  
 Required for September 1987. An enthusiastic and creative teacher for a class of 4-7 year olds. The school is a Junior School. Apply direct to the school with a letter of application and C.V. (01554 1737) 205624

**HAMPSHIRE**  
**PRINCE'S MEAD SCHOOL**  
 43 Edgar Road, Winchester  
 Required for September 1987. Versatile young teacher with responsibility for General Subjects with 5-10 year olds. Ability to help in other areas desirable. Apply direct to the school with a letter of application and C.V. (01554 1737) 205624

**HERTFORDSHIRE**  
**ST HILDA'S SCHOOL**  
 Buntingford  
 Day School for 500 girls 3 to 11. Class teacher required for 1987. Ability to take on all subjects throughout age range 3-11. Applications with full CV and names of two referees to Headmistress to arrive by 24th April 1987. (045657) 205624

**ISLE OF WIGHT**  
 Required for September 1987. An experienced teacher for a class of 5-8 year olds. The post will be both a full-time and a part-time post. The school is a Junior School. Apply direct to the school with a letter of application and C.V. (01554 1737) 205624

**KENT**  
**MARLBOROUGH HOUSE SCHOOL**  
 116 Boys and Girls  
 Boarding and Day  
 Qualified teacher of Mathematics (with some Science) required for September 1987. Ability to teach computing an advantage. Together with willingness to coach games and to contribute to extra-curricular activities. Salary will be in accordance with current Government legislation. D.E.S. Superannuation Scheme. Applications with full Curriculum Vitae and names of two referees to the Headmaster, Marlborough House School, Marlborough, Kent TW18 4PX. From whom further details may be obtained. (01615) 205624

**LANCASHIRE**  
**THE BULFAMME GRAMMAR SCHOOL FOR GIRLS**  
 116 Boys and Girls  
 Boarding and Day  
 Qualified teacher of Mathematics (with some Science) required for September 1987. Ability to teach computing an advantage. Together with willingness to coach games and to contribute to extra-curricular activities. Salary will be in accordance with current Government legislation. D.E.S. Superannuation Scheme. Applications with full Curriculum Vitae and names of two referees to the Headmaster, Marlborough House School, Marlborough, Kent TW18 4PX. From whom further details may be obtained. (01615) 205624

**LONDON**  
**INDEPENDENT JEWISH DAY SCHOOL**  
 116 Boys and Girls  
 Boarding and Day  
 Qualified teacher of Mathematics (with some Science) required for September 1987. Ability to teach computing an advantage. Together with willingness to coach games and to contribute to extra-curricular activities. Salary will be in accordance with current Government legislation. D.E.S. Superannuation Scheme. Applications with full Curriculum Vitae and names of two referees to the Headmaster, Marlborough House School, Marlborough, Kent TW18 4PX. From whom further details may be obtained. (01615) 205624

# LONDON NW3

**HAMPSTEAD**  
 Qualified Primary Teacher required April 1987. Class of Boys and Girls 5-6 years. Recog. and exp. in Prep. School. Burgham. Non. London. Weighting. Non. Resident.  
 Apply: The Principal, Stepping Stone School, 33, don NW3 5JY. Tel: 01-435 9841. (09356) 205624

**LONDON SE24**  
**HERNE HILL SCHOOL**  
 Exciting New Project: Well established Nursery School of 20 pupils is forming a Co-op. pre-prep. dept. We are seeking an experienced, energetic, enthusiastic Reception teacher. Salary negotiable. Apply direct to the school with a letter of application and C.V. (01554 1737) 205624

**LONDON W8**  
**KEVIN'S PREPARATORY SCHOOL**  
 17 Upper Phillimore Gardens, London W8 7HF  
 The Girls' Public Day School Trust. Independent Day School for girls. Required for September 1987. Experienced full-time qualified teacher to be responsible for a class of 5-10 year olds. The school is a Junior School. Apply direct to the school with a letter of application and C.V. (01554 1737) 205624

**LONDON**  
**HIGHFIELD SCHOOL**  
 116 Boys and Girls  
 Boarding and Day  
 Qualified teacher of Mathematics (with some Science) required for September 1987. Ability to teach computing an advantage. Together with willingness to coach games and to contribute to extra-curricular activities. Salary will be in accordance with current Government legislation. D.E.S. Superannuation Scheme. Applications with full Curriculum Vitae and names of two referees to the Headmaster, Marlborough House School, Marlborough, Kent TW18 4PX. From whom further details may be obtained. (01615) 205624

**LONDON**  
**FULL-TIME N.E.S. Required for September, full-time Nursery Nurse (N.N.E.S.) two-year entry. Apply to the Headmaster, 1040281 205624**

**LONDON**  
**PRIMARY TEACHER required temporarily for 8-11 year olds. May to December. Apply with C.V. and references to Headmistress, Hellenic College, 67, Port Street, London SW18 4PX. (01554 1737) 205624**

**MIDDLESEX**  
**DENMEAD SCHOOL**  
 116 Boys and Girls  
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**SURREY**  
**KING'S HOUSE SCHOOL**  
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**SURREY**  
**COLLINGWOOD BOYS' SCHOOL**  
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**SURREY**  
**THE HAYTHORNS**  
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**WEST YORKSHIRE**  
**WAKEFIELD GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL**  
 116 Boys and Girls  
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**WILTSHIRE**  
**ST. FRANCIS SCHOOL**  
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# APPOINTMENTS IN SCOTLAND

## TVEI Regional Adviser

### Posts in the Manpower Services Commission

The Education Directorate of the MSC wishes to make a number of additional appointments to its Project Advisory Team. Posts will be regionally based.

There are vacancies in the East and West Midlands, London, South East and South West regions in England, and in Scotland and Wales.

Responsibilities will include:

- ★ Advising LEA personnel, Groups of Heads and Specialist Staff on the aims and criteria of TVEI; and on the different strategies emerging for management of curriculum change and appropriate in-service training;
- ★ Monitoring activities in Schools and Colleges on the Implementation of proposals, and reporting the Unit progress against contracts;
- ★ Mounting regular meetings and work shops of LEA personnel within the Advisers' patch to disseminate effective practice and develop particular aspects of curriculum change;
- ★ Attending meetings with other Advisers and commenting on operational policy.

Advisers will be working closely with LEA project personnel and Schools and Colleges as well as the Directorate; and considerable travelling and nights away from home are therefore involved.

Candidates for this demanding post should be qualified Teachers/Lecturers with a strong commitment to curriculum development and a wide experience in education including experience at a senior level (Head/Principal in School or FE, Adviser with LEA or post of equivalent responsibility). Leadership qualities and effective interpersonal skills are important for this post.

Appointments will normally be on a two year secondment basis with options for extension up to a total period of five years, although period appointments or consultancy arrangements may be possible. MSC invites applications from interested practitioners and from employers wishing to nominate a secondees.

Further details and application form (to be returned by 27th April 1987) can be obtained from: MSC, CSP8, Room N207, Moorfoot, Sheffield S1 4PQ, or alternatively telephone 0742 704826.

The Manpower Services Commission is an equal opportunity employer and is firmly committed to equal opportunity policies. Applications are welcome from all suitably qualified individuals irrespective of sex, racial origin or disability.

**MSC** Manpower Services Commission

## Senior Field Officer (Scotland)

£22 - £25,000

The Open College is an exciting new initiative in the world of adult learning. Its challenging brief is to promote a large scale increase in open learning opportunities - with the aim of increasing the vocational competence within the UK. The College will work closely with television, radio, further education and industry.

Reporting to the Director of Student Services, David Grugon, the Senior Field Officer will play a key role in embedding The Open College in the UK and in Scotland in particular. You will play a major part in advising The Open College on the Scottish dimension of its courses and the appropriate nature of accreditation for students of The Open College in Scotland.

Your responsibilities will include:

- ★ setting up an office in Scotland
- ★ contracting local and regional agencies to provide student services
- ★ promoting and piloting Open College courses to education, industry, commerce and the professions
- ★ evaluating the experience of Open College courses and services
- ★ seeking advice on future courses and provisions

Professionally qualified you will have substantial experience in adult/ further education, or in industrial training. A background in the provision of open learning is essential. Broadcasting experience would be valuable. Your demanding role will require energy and commitment to ensure you succeed. The ability to communicate effectively with senior people in both the private and public sectors is essential. The post will involve substantial travel as well as evening and weekend work.

If you can make a firm commitment to open learning (including educational broadcasting) and have the ambition to make The Open College a success please send full personal, salary and career details to Jim Morrison, Management Selection, PER 75 Sankey Street, Warrington WA1 1SL by 24th April, 1987.

**PER** Management Selection

# Colleges of Further Education

## Directors, Principals and Vice Principals

**WEST GLAMORGAN COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**EDUCATION DEPARTMENT**  
 Appointment of Vice Principals under Tertiary, 220016 (06698) 220016

# Other Appointments

**AVON COUNTY**  
**CITY OF BATH COLLEGE OF FURTHER EDUCATION**  
**DEPARTMENT OF TECHNOLOGY**  
 Required as soon as possible. LECTURER GRADE 1 to teach COMPUTER AIDED DRAWING. Salary: £6,324 p.a. entry point depending upon qualifications and previous experience. Further details and an application form (in duplicate) from the Principal, Avon Street, Bath BA1 1UP. Closing date: 24 April 1987. 220026 (06684)

# APPOINTMENTS IN SCOTLAND continued

## THORNTOWN SCHOOL, KILMARNOCK

### ENGLISH TEACHER PART-TIME TEACHER OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION S T S M Scale

Thorntown is a residential secondary school for children with social, emotional and behaviour disorders, grant-aided by SED. Full details of the School will be forwarded to applicants.

#### ENGLISH TEACHER:

Required from 11.8.87 with an interest in remedial education. This is a full time permanent post. The work will involve teaching English to mixed ability pupils in small groups, preparing remedial programmes and developing Standard Grade Courses at General and Foundation level. An ability to work as part of a multi-disciplinary team will be essential.

#### TEACHER OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION:

This is a part time (half) short term appointment of 1 year whilst the present holder of the post is away on secondment from September 1987.

Barnardo's is a Christian Child Care organisation and offers conditions of service broadly in line with local authorities. Applications for posts are welcomed from persons irrespective of disability, marital status, sex or race. Transferable Pension.

Applications to Mr Hugh R. Mackintosh, Senior Assistant Divisional Director, Dr Barnardo's 235 Corstorphine Road, Edinburgh EH12 7AR. Tel: 031 334 9883.

Enquiries to: The Principal, Thorntown School. Tel: 063 27227.

Closing date: 24th April 1987.

**Barnardo's**

## CRAIGIE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION APPOINTMENT OF PRINCIPAL

The Board of Governors invites applications from appropriately qualified candidates for the post of Principal which will become vacant on 5th October, 1987, by the retirement of the present holder, Peter C. McNaught, MA, MLitt, FRSA.

Craigie College provides teacher training facilities for the Ayrshire Division of Strathclyde Region and the Dumfries & Galloway Region. It offers the Bachelor of Education Degree of the University of Strathclyde at Pre- and In-Service level, together with the Post-Graduate Certificate in Primary Education and other professional courses.

Further information and application forms, which should be completed and returned by 30th April, 1987, may be obtained by writing to Mr. J.L. Wallace, MA, Chairman of the Board of Governors, Craigie College of Education, Av. KA2 0SF.

## Cheshire Education Committee North Cheshire College WARRINGTON

### Applications are invited for the post of DIRECTOR

Grade 7, £25,863 (under review) which will become vacant on 1 September 1987 on the retirement of the present Director, Mr W E Buckley.

The College is a major provider of higher, further and community education and is accommodated on three sites in the Warrington District.

Further details and application forms (self addressed envelope please) from:

Clerk to the Governors  
 North Cheshire College  
 Padgate Campus  
 Farnhead  
 Warrington WA2 0DB

Closing date for applications: Friday, 15 May 1987.

(14377)

## Oxfordshire County Council

An Equal Opportunities Employer

### THE HENLEY COLLEGE

The new tertiary College, the first in Oxfordshire, opens in September 1987. The following posts, to start in September, offer an attractive opportunity to help create a new College.

#### LECTURER I posts in the following areas:

##### PHYSICS

To teach Physics at A/AS and GCSE levels and to contribute to BTEC Science and Electronics courses. The ability to offer Mathematics is desirable.

##### SPORT AND HEALTH RELATED FITNESS

To join a well established team working with students across a full range of sport and health-related activities. The ability to offer soccer, cricket and basketball would be an advantage.

##### BUSINESS STUDIES/ SECRETARIAL AND OFFICE SYSTEMS (three posts)

To contribute to courses across the business and secretarial study fields. Candidates should be able to offer two or more from the following: Distribution Studies; Organisation in its Environment; Sales Function and Selling Methods; Travel and Tourism; Keyboarding/Typewriting Skills; Shortland; Word Processing; Office Practice; BTEC First Core Studies. Ability to offer Finance and Accounting would be an advantage.

##### SPECIAL NEEDS

To act as Course Tutor to the College's Preparation for Employment course. Experience in teaching students with moderate learning difficulties, physical handicap and emotional problems is essential.

##### INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

To join an enthusiastic team responsible for the delivery and development of IT across a wide range of courses including YTS, BTEC, GCSE/A/AS level. Knowledge of management information systems required. Network experience an advantage.

##### ENGLISH/COMMUNICATION SKILLS

To teach English/Communication Skills across a wide range of courses.

##### MATHEMATICS/NUMERACY

To join an established Mathematics/Numeracy team to teach Mathematics at A level and to contribute to other courses including GCSE (Mature).

Salary: Lecturer I: £8,843 - £11,865

For all appointments, graduate and/or professional qualifications, previous experience of students at 16+, together with an ability to offer a second teaching subject, is desirable. New entrants to the profession are encouraged to apply. Please note that salaries are currently under review. Please write for further details (enclosing a large SAE please) to Mr. G D J Phillips Principal-designate, c/o South Oxfordshire Technical College, Deanfield Avenue, Henley-on-Thames, Oxon RG9 1UH (telephone 0491 675001). Applications should be received by Wednesday 29 April 1987.

(14350)

## BURY METROPOLITAN COLLEGE (TERTIARY) Market St., Bury BL9 0BG.

Applications are invited for the following 2 posts at this new tertiary college which combines two Sixth Form Colleges with a College of Further Education.

### LECTURER

Grade 2 - Performance Music/Dance  
 £8,595 - £13,656 (Salary scale under review)

Applicants should have qualifications in either music or dance and a commitment to integrated arts in the post-16 curriculum. An interest in electronic music might also be an advantage. The post is tenable from 1st September 1987.

### LECTURER

Grade 2 - Business Studies  
 £8,595 - £13,656 (Salary scale under review)

The successful applicant will be required to lead a small team of those teaching book-keeping, accounts and finance (BTEC) to secretarial, business studies, GCE 'A' and 'O' level and Stage 1 professional level students, and to develop learning methodologies which, among other developments take account of the wider range of learning modes. The post is tenable from 1st September 1987. Forms of application for the above 2 posts are obtainable from and returnable to the Principal Designate, Tertiary Administration Unit, Athlone House, Market St., Bury BL9 0BG (Telephone 061 708 5641) by 24th April 1987.

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER  
**BURY METROPOLITAN COLLEGE**

## Advertisers please note copy deadlines for

### Easter and May Bank Holiday issues

### Issue of April 24th copy deadline

### Thursday 16th April 5pm

### Issue of May 8th copy deadline

### Friday May 1st 5pm



## COLLEGES OF FURTHER EDUCATION

### AVON COUNTY EDUCATION SERVICE

**TECHNICAL COLLEGE**  
Bristol Road, Bristol BS1 2JL  
DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL STUDIES  
Applications are invited from suitably qualified persons for the post of Lecturer in Mathematics and Statistics. The person appointed will have the opportunity to teach across a wide range of subjects from the A level to the first year of the BTEC National Certificate in Pharmaceutical Sciences. The successful candidate will have overall responsibility for the BTEC National Certificate in Pharmaceutical Sciences course and will be responsible for the teaching of the course. The successful candidate will be responsible for the teaching of the course. The successful candidate will be responsible for the teaching of the course.

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## WATFORD COLLEGE

Faculty of Technology

Lecturers required for September 1987:

### Lecturer Grade II

In Mathematics

Temporary one-year, full-time appointment, to teach Mathematics on a new engineering conversion course to students of A level standard but in non-science subjects, to prepare them for entry to engineering degree courses. Ability to tutor mature and non-technology students in mathematical methods is essential.

### Lecturer Grade II

In Computing Engineering

to teach elements of Computer Engineering and Software Engineering on courses up to BTEC Higher National Certificate level and to assist in the development of new computer systems.

### Lecturer Grade II

In Motor Vehicle Work

to teach technological and supervisory subjects on a range of courses up to and including the level of City & Guilds Motor Vehicle Technicians 390 Part III. The ability to offer expertise in the application of automotive electronics and electronics would be an advantage.

Salary in accordance with Burnham F.E. Scale for Lecturers Grade II: £8595 - £13856 p.a., plus £282 p.a. Fringe Allowance.

## Computer Services Unit

Required for September 1987:

### Senior Lecturer

In Computer Studies

to join a small team providing a support service to the College. The postholder will be working with students on Higher National courses in Business Studies and Software Engineering and therefore candidates should have a relevant degree or professional qualification and recent commercial experience. The College offers a wide range of courses which allow the appointed person to develop interests in a variety of application areas.

Salary in accordance with Burnham F.E. Scale for Senior Lecturers: £12615 - £14820 [Bar] - £15873 p.a., plus £282 p.a. Fringe Allowance.

Further details and application forms for all posts available from The Principal, Watford College, Hemstead Road, Watford, Herts. WD1 3EZ. (Tel. Watford 675531).

Applications are invited for the posts of:

### HEAD OF DEPARTMENT (GRADE II) - SCIENCE AND AGRICULTURE

The successful applicant will be responsible for the running of both the Science (Aberystwyth Campus) and Agriculture Sections of the department, and for the day to day running of the Felfach campus of the College.

### LECTURER GRADE II - BUSINESS STUDIES

to assist primarily with the development and teaching of BTEC National Course in the department. In support of the Dyfed TVEI Project. The successful candidate will have a thorough knowledge of recent curricular developments in the post mandatory sector of education. (Cardigan Campus).

### LECTURER GRADE II - INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND COMPUTING

to assist with the development of college courses, and to act as co-ordinator for the BTEC National Diploma Computer Studies course. He/she will be expected to advise on the purchase of hardware and software throughout the College (Aberystwyth Campus).

### LECTURER GRADE I - FARM MACHINERY AND AGRICULTURE

The appointee will have a good knowledge of farm machinery operation, and to offer support in teaching of Agriculture Engineering and other related subjects to day release students studying Agriculture Phase 1 and 2 (Felfach Campus).

### LECTURER GRADE I - GENERAL CATERING SUBJECTS

The successful applicant will be required to teach primarily food preparation to Craft Catering students, but may also be required to assist with the teaching of related subjects at both Craft and BTEC National Diploma levels.

### LECTURER GRADE I - MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

to assist with the teaching of Mech. Eng. subjects on BTEC First Diploma and National Certificate courses in the Department of Technology. It would be an advantage if applicants were able to offer Electrical or Electronic subjects at the lower levels. (Cardigan Campus). For all posts, applicants should be appropriately qualified and should possess relevant industrial and/or teaching experience. Fluency in Welsh would be a great advantage.

Appointees will be paid in accordance with Burnham Salary Scales correctly:

Head of Department Grade II - £14,136 - £15,933  
Lecturer Grade II - £8,595 - £13,856  
Lecturer Grade I - £6,843 - £11,865

and be subject to conditions of service as locally negotiated and agreed. Further particulars and application forms may be obtained from the Principal of the College. Completed application forms should be returned so as to reach the College not later than 24th April 1987.

Equal Opportunities Employer

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## COLLEGES OF FURTHER EDUCATION continued

## ilea Working in Education

Application forms and further details of these posts are available from the contact indicated. Note: In the absence of a telephone number enquiries can only be received in writing.

Closing date for all posts is 24th April 1987, unless otherwise stated.

All full-time posts are suitable for job share unless indicated otherwise.

### Lecturers

SALARY SCALES are in accordance with Burnham (F.E.) Award effective from 1st April 1986 and include an inner London allowance.

Lecturer 1 on an incremental scale £7,850 - £12,875 with a starting point depending on qualifications, training and experience. Then to £13,173 - £14,766.

JOE SHARING. All posts grade Lecturer 1 to Principal Lecturer are suitable for job share. Applications for job share will only be considered if submitted on a paired basis. Registers of potential job sharers are maintained for Colleges by Karen Newbury, PS/HEQ OPS, Room 436, The County Hall, London SE1 7PB.

WOOLWICH COLLEGE  
Villas Road, Plumstead, London SE18 7PN. Tel. 01-855 1216.

### Lecturer I in Physics

Required for September 1987. Candidates should be able to teach at all levels up to and including GCE 'A' level. Application forms and further details are available on application to the Senior Administrative Officer at the College.

### Inner London Education Authority

ilea is an equal opportunity employer

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## WEST CHESHIRE COLLEGE

Eaton Road, Handbridge, Cheshire, CH4 7EP.  
Telephone Chester 677677

### REQUIRED FOR SEPTEMBER:

### Lecturer II Computer Technology

To co-ordinate the work of the Section in the area of Computer Technology. Appropriate qualifications are required.

### Lecturer II Secretarial Studies

To teach and co-ordinate YTS and other short Secretarial courses.

### Lecturer II Chemistry

Responsible for the teaching of Chemistry throughout the College. Applicants should be graduates with relevant industrial and teaching experience.

### Lecturer II English

To teach English across the College and to be responsible for the organisation of GCSE English. Applicants should be graduates with relevant teaching experience.

### Lecturer II Service Engineering (Foundation Section)

To act as Course Tutor for CPVE Technical Services Category and BTEC First Award in Engineering. The person appointed may also be involved in teaching YTS and Adult Work Preparation Courses. Applicants should be familiar with the appropriate teaching methods, should have appropriate qualifications and be teacher trained.

### Lecturer II Hairdressing and Foundation Science

To be responsible for co-ordinating, developing and teaching Hairdressing and Foundation Science. Applicants should have appropriate qualifications and teaching experience.

### Lecturer I General and Communication Studies

To teach mainly to BTEC and Craft level students. An ability to teach English to GCSE level would be an advantage.

### Lecturer I Special Needs

The successful applicant will be expected to teach on a variety of courses and to undertake course tutor responsibility for ITV students and have the necessary assessment and counselling skills.

Application forms and further details can be obtained from the Principal on receipt of a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Closing date - 24 April 1987.

(10298)

## Wiltshire

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER  
Education Committee

### Trowbridge Technical College

Required for 1st September 1987:  
HEAD OF DEPARTMENT OF ENGINEERING AND CONSTRUCTION - GRADE IV

This vacancy arises because of the promotion of one Head of Department, the retirement of the other, and the merging of the two Departments of Engineering and Construction. Applications are sought from suitably qualified persons to lead this new Department, in which there is potential for further development.

Salary: £16,704 - £18,714

### LECTURER I IN PSYCHOLOGY

Specialist input is needed for 'O' ('A'), GCSE, and other Psychology modules on a range of courses. Ability to assist with 'A' Level Psychology if required, and to offer another academic discipline and/or communications teaching would be an advantage.

### LECTURER I IN MATHEMATICS/GENERAL SCIENCE/TECHNOLOGY

To teach primarily 'O' Level, GCSE and BTEC Levels I and II Mathematics, and Basic Arithmetic. It will also be necessary to teach other topics such as basic science and technology (particularly polymers), where appropriate to the applicant.

### LECTURER II IN POLYMER TECHNOLOGY (PLASTICS SPECIALISATION)

To teach plastic materials and processing topics and polymer science primarily on BTEC National Certificate, Higher National Certificate and Grad PRI courses. High level qualifications and recent experience in the plastics industry would be an advantage.

Salary: LECTURER I - £8,843 - £13,856  
LECTURER II - £8,595 - £13,856

Application forms and further details available from the Principal's Secretary Trowbridge Technical College, College Road, Trowbridge, Wiltshire, BA14 9ES. Telephone: Trowbridge (02214) 8241.

### Chippenham Technical College

Cocklebury Road, Chippenham Wiltshire, SN15 3QD.

### DEPARTMENT OF ADULT & COMMUNITY SERVICES

Required for September 1987

### LECTURER I IN CARING SKILLS with recent experience and qualifications in care of children, the elderly and/or those with special needs.

Salary: £8,843 - £13,856

Application forms and further details available from the Clerk to the Governors at the College (SAE please). Closing date: 1st May 1987

An Equal Opportunity Employer

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Bristol Road, Bristol BS1 2JL  
DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL STUDIES  
Applications are invited from suitably qualified persons for the post of Lecturer in Mathematics and Statistics. The person appointed will have the opportunity to teach across a wide range of subjects from the A level to the first year of the BTEC National Certificate in Pharmaceutical Sciences. The successful candidate will have overall responsibility for the BTEC National Certificate in Pharmaceutical Sciences course and will be responsible for the teaching of the course. The successful candidate will be responsible for the teaching of the course.

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DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL STUDIES  
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## 114311

OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER (4987)

**HULL COLLEGE**  
of  
**Further Education**







## BEDFORD COLLEGE

### of higher education

Applications are invited, especially from serving teachers with either infant or junior school experience, for the following posts in Primary Education from 1st September 1987, available as a result of expansion in this field.

Senior Lecturer: to lead Junior School Studies within B.Ed

L2/SL: to lead the Humanities area (History, Geography and Religious Studies) in B.Ed

L2/SL: Language in Primary Education

L2/SL: Mathematics in Primary Education

L2/SL: Science in Primary Education

Also from 1st September there are available the following opportunities across the range of the college's work:

Senior Lecturer: Staff Development Officer, to coordinate and expand the programme across the college

Senior Lecturer: Philosophy, to teach at degree level in the area of human movement studies, including teacher education

SL and L2 (2 posts): Computing and Information Systems, to be involved particularly with HNC developments, including computer systems architecture

L2/SL: Business Studies (Accounting and Quantitative Skills), to teach across BTEC and professional courses

L1: English, to teach on a variety of 16-19 courses, including GCSE, and to contribute to secondary teacher training

L1: Special Needs, to join a team teaching young adults; enthusiasm and experience as important as qualifications for this post

L1: Dance, to teach dance in B.Ed degree and other courses

L1: Electrical Engineering, to teach mainly electrical craft courses, including installation

The following new post is available immediately:  
L1: TVE Access Tutor, to lead an access course to further education for Afro-Caribbean young people, a youth or community work background could be an advantage.

Application forms and further details are available from the Personnel Office, Bedford College of Higher Education, Mander Site, Cauldwell Street, Bedford MK42 9AH, to whom they should be returned by Monday 27th April, 1987

Bedfordshire is an Equal Opportunities Employer.

Applications from people of afro-caribbean and asian origins are particularly welcome, since they are currently under-represented in the college. All candidates should have a commitment to the college and Authority multicultural policy.

(24/87)

## Youth & Community Development Workers (2 Posts)

(Project Peckham)  
£9,308-£10,401 p.a.

(a) Indian Community Ref: VB/1/145

(b) Pakistani Women and Girls Issues Ref: VB/2/145

Nottinghamshire County Council together with the Asian Sub-continent Voluntary Youth Group (an umbrella organisation) have collaborated in setting up this Detached Youth Work Project to work in identifying and devising initiatives to meet the growing needs of Asian young people. The project currently requires a suitably qualified Female Detached Youth and Community Worker to work with Pakistani Women and Girls issues and a suitably qualified Male Detached Youth and Community Worker to work with the Indian Community. Applicants for both posts should be able to speak at least one Asian language.

These posts are covered under Section 7(2a) of the Sex Discrimination Act.

Relocation expenses where appropriate.

For further information and an informal discussion telephone Mr. S. Khan on Nottingham (0602) 410104 or 410121.

Request for application form and job description should be made in writing to the Personnel Services Section, Leisure Services Department, Trent Bridge House, Fox Road, West Bridgford, Nottingham, accompanied by a self-addressed envelope. Closing date 27 April. Please quote reference when applying.

An Equal Opportunity Employer.

**Nottinghamshire County Council**  
County Hall-West Bridgford  
Nottingham NG2 7OP

## HAMPSHIRE

### SOUTHAMPTON INSTITUTE OF ADULT YOUTH & COMMUNITY EDUCATION

#### Head of

#### Argyle Centre

(Burnham F.E. Senior Lecturer)

A Worker is required with experience of adult education in a multi-racial area to continue the development of this inner city centre which is a resource for community-based provision in the area. Applicants should preferably have experience of managing a building and be able to speak one of the major Asian languages. The Institute is committed to developing an anti-racist and anti-sectarian approach to the work and applicants who can contribute to this are sought.

We pursue a policy of equality of opportunity. Application particularly welcome from people with disabilities.

Application forms and further details from Argyle Centre, Argyle Road, Southampton, Tel: 0703 227795. Closing date for application, April 30th 1987.

(14/10)

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

## EDUCATION & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

### YOUTH SERVICE

#### DETACHED YOUTH WORKER

(2 POSTS)

JNC Range 3  
Points 4-8 £9,846 - £11,046 plus £1110

London Weighting

As the result of a successful Education Support Grant application, two full time experienced and/or qualified Detached Youth Workers are required to work primarily in the Polaris Hill area of Mitcham.

The Project commencing April 1987, will be based in its own premises, which can be used both as an administrative and small group work base.

These appointments are funded by the Department of Education & Science and will continue as long as sufficient funds are provided by that Department or by other funders. The D.E.S. have indicated that at this juncture funding is available until 1992.

For an informal discussion/further details please contact the Youth Officer, Merton Youth Office, Crown House, London Road, Merton, Surrey SM4 6DX. Tel: 01-845 3899.

Closing date: 28th April, 1987.

(14/40)

LONDON BOROUGH OF

merton

Merton is an Equal Opportunities Employer.

Applications will be considered on their merits.

## COLLEGES OF HIGHER EDUCATION

continued

### LANCASTER

#### S. MARTIN'S COLLEGE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

##### LECTURER IN/RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Applications are invited from graduates with a degree in Religious Studies or equivalent to fill the post of Lecturer in Religious Studies. The post holder will have Christian commitment, a sense of humour and a willingness to work with young people and men.

Further particulars and application forms are available from the Principal, S. Martin's College, Lancaster LA1 3JD. Completed applications should be returned by 1 May.

(15/579) 240056

### WESTSUSSEX

#### DEPUTY HEAD OF DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

(Incorporating Bishop Otter College, Chichester and Bournemouth College)

For further information and an informal discussion telephone Mr. S. Khan on Nottingham (0602) 410104 or 410121.

Request for application form and job description should be made in writing to the Personnel Services Section, Leisure Services Department, Trent Bridge House, Fox Road, West Bridgford, Nottingham, accompanied by a self-addressed envelope. Closing date 27 April. Please quote reference when applying.

An Equal Opportunity Employer.

Nottinghamshire County Council

County Hall-West Bridgford

Nottingham NG2 7OP

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Nottinghamshire County Council

County Hall-West Bridgford







## ASSISTANT EDUCATION OFFICER

Principal Officer Range £17,916 - £19,080 plus London Weighting

Applications are invited from graduates with successful teaching or lecturing experience and previous administrative experience, preferably in a local authority, for this senior appointment which carries responsibility for secondary schools, youth services and related matters.

The Authority is currently reviewing secondary and post 16 provision, and the successful applicant will, as a member of the Director's Senior Management Team, be expected to play a formative role in the development of secondary education. A proven record of initiative, common-sense, and capacity for hard work will be looked for.

(Ref: Staffing/LG/329)

Closing date: 14 days from the appearance of this advertisement.

## ADVISOR FOR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Headteacher Group 8, £17,511 - £18,999 inclusive of London Weighting

Applications are invited for this important post from candidates with relevant and proven experience in education computing. The Havering Education Computer Centre, with a national reputation for the development of JIVE/CAL and other projects, provides a good base for curriculum development and INSET for Primary, Secondary and Further Education.

The successful applicant will be expected to lead in developing the computer as a teaching aid across the curriculum, in evaluation of appropriate software and to offer technical support and advice.

(Ref: Staffing/LG/330)

Closing date: 2 weeks from the appearance of this advertisement.

## ADVISER FOR PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Headteacher Group 8 £17,511 - £18,999 inclusive of London Weighting

This vacancy arises from the promotion of Joan Greenfield to Chief Adviser in another Authority.

Applications are invited for this post, the holder of which will share in the responsibility for the development of all aspects of Physical Education in the Primary, Secondary and Further Phases. An exciting variety of opportunities exist in Havering for young people to experience a wide range of outdoor activities. In addition to the specialist advisory role, the successful applicant will be expected to take responsibility for the development of Health Education and Equal Opportunities.

(Ref: Staffing/LG/328)

Closing date: 2 weeks from the date of this advertisement.

Further details and application forms for the above posts are available from the Director of Educational Services, Mercury House, Mercury Gardens, Romford, RM1 3DR Telephone: Romford 86989, extension 4551. (Please quote appropriate ref. number)

## ADMINISTRATION L.E.A. continued

### EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

#### Chief Inspector

Soulbury HT 13 Salary £23,442-£24,903

Applications are invited for this third tier post in the Education Department responsible for leading and managing the 80 strong team of inspectors and advisory staff of the Education Service in Kent.

Candidates must have experience of inspecting and advising schools and/or Colleges and of holding responsibility at a senior level in Schools or Colleges.

#### Inspector Primary, Science and Technology

Soulbury HT 10 Salary £19,260-£20,766

Applications are sought for this new post as Inspector for Primary and Science and Technology. We need sound experience of primary teaching management with proven expertise in this area of the curriculum.

#### Inspector Modern Languages

Soulbury HT 9 Salary £18,075-£19,587

Applications are invited from German Specialists with good and recent teaching experience at least to Head of Department level.

Further particulars and application forms returnable by 1st May are available from Brian Ostley County Education Officer, (Reference PT), Education Department, Springfield, Maidstone, Kent ME14 2LJ. Telephone Maidstone (0622) 671411, ext. 2508.

(02288)

**KENT COUNTY COUNCIL**



## Suffolk County Council

### EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

#### AREA CAREERS OFFICER

Southern Area

Post No: E422

Salary: M1 £11,952 - £12,894 per annum

Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced Careers Officers to head a staff of 28 in the Southern Area of the County from the Ipswich base, which also staffs part-time career stations at Woodbridge and Felixstowe.

As a member of the senior management team the postholder will contribute to the overall strategy of a service currently being restructured to meet the challenges of progressive educational policies in this attractive rural/coastal county.

Application forms and further details from the County Education Officer, St Andrew House, County Hall, Ipswich IP4 1LJ (s.a.s. please). Informal enquiries may be addressed to Peter Green, Assistant Principal Careers Officer on (0473) 230000, ext. 4353.

#### SENIOR CAREERS OFFICER (SPECIAL NEEDS)

Post No: E889

Scale £ 23,513 - £10,164 per annum

Applications are invited from qualified and experienced Careers Officers for the above post based at Lowestoft Careers Office. The postholder will be responsible to the Area Careers Officer for providing a guidance and placing service to young people with special needs in the Northern Area.

Application forms and further details from the Area Careers Officer, Suffolk House, London Road North, Lowestoft (s.a.s. please). Informal enquiries may be addressed to Ivor Buckingham, Area Careers Officer on (0502) 62282.

The above posts carry an essential car user allowance and a full driving licence and ownership of a car are necessary. Schemes of assisted car purchase and relocation expenses are available.

Closing date for both posts Monday, 27th April 1987.

(14361)

## Leicestershire

### EDUCATION DEPARTMENT ADVISORY SERVICE

#### ADVISERS

Salary Soulbury GP 8

Required from September 1987 in connection with the Authority's TVE1 Submission.

1. PERSONAL AND SOCIAL EDUCATION — to be responsible for advising on the development of Personal and Social Education programmes in the LEA's schools and colleges. Particular importance is attached to the contribution of PSE to the 14-18 core curriculum and its links with the Records of Achievement and Careers Guidance for all students. The post will involve working in teams with colleagues in the Advisory Service.

2. ASSESSMENT AND RECORDS OF ACHIEVEMENT — to be responsible for advising on LEA wide developments in assessment and Records of Achievement.

Assessment across the 14-18 age range, including GCSE, AS, AL, pre-vocational and vocational, will be the focus, also assisting schools and colleges in developing assessment policies which draw together the various assessment initiatives.

The LEA has wide experience of Records of Achievement and is looking for an Adviser who can co-ordinate the rationalisation of student records across the LEA.

3. BUSINESS EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY INDUSTRY LINKS — to be responsible for advising on Business Education in the curriculum through both full course and modular developments. A key concern will be the part economic literacy plays in the core 14-18 curriculum. There will be a team of Advisory Teachers to assist in this work as well as in the promotion of community industry links.

4. OUTDOOR AND RESIDENTIAL EDUCATION — to assist with advising schools and other establishments on matters concerning outdoor education and residential education. Candidates should have a particular knowledge of at least two areas of outdoor education and a good working knowledge of all national schemes. The work will also involve inspecting residential centres, helping teachers plan residential work, both through personal contact and through INSET.

5. TECHNOLOGY — The successful candidate will work alongside Advisers in Science/Technology and Design/Technology in the development of technological experience both within courses and across the curriculum. There are a number of Advisory Teacher posts in the area of technology and the ability to work collaboratively in teams will be essential.

6. COMPUTER EDUCATION AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY — With experience either at Head of Department level or in an Advisory capacity. The successful applicant will join a well established Computer Education/Information Technology Advisory Team and plan a leading role in the refining and implementation of the Authority's policies for Information Technology.

These posts are for a fixed period of 5 years.

Further particulars available from the Director of Education, Room 25, County Hall, Glenfield, Leicester LE3 8RR. Please telephone (0533) 317877/8. Closing date: 24th April 1987.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES POLICY: Applications are welcome from people regardless of their race, ethnic origin, religion, sex, marital status or disability. Disabled applicants will be guaranteed an interview if suitably qualified and experienced, and supported by a recognised agency e.g. B.H.O.

## WILTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL Education Department

### GENERAL SECONDARY ADVISER

(3 Posts)

Salary Scale: Soulbury (Burnham Head Teacher Group 9) £18,075 - £19,587 p.a.

Applications are invited for 3 posts of General Secondary Adviser from September 1987.

The persons appointed will work with secondary schools in an area of the county and play a major role in the TVE1 Extension Project.

Applicants should have wide and successful teaching experience and the proven ability to deliver change and development in the curriculum.

Further particulars and application forms obtainable from Chief Education Officer (ST/N), County Hall, Trowbridge, Wilt. BA14 8JB (Tel: Trowbridge (02214) 3641 Ext. 2480) quoting reference E87/188. Closing date: 23rd April 1987.

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER

## Western Education and Library Board

Headquarters Office, 1 Hospital Road, Omagh, Co Tyrone, Northern Ireland

### (REF V/44) ADVISER FOR TECHNOLOGY

Salary Scale: £18,075 - £19,587 per annum

The Board is the education and library authority for the western part of Northern Ireland with Headquarters in Omagh, Co Tyrone. As part of a planned expansion in curriculum support services it has initiated a major programme to develop technology in all its schools and colleges. This programme involves providing resources and support for both traditional and newer technologies and the establishment of a technology education centre. The Board wishes to appoint an adviser for technology, who will be responsible for promoting and developing design, materials processing, microelectronics, control and automation and who will be closely involved in the development of the centre. This is a newly created post demanding qualities of leadership and a strong commitment to the role of technology across the curriculum.

Applications are invited for the above post based in Omagh. The successful candidate will be a qualified teacher with proven experience in some or all of the above disciplines and have significant direct experience of curriculum development and of the organisation and/or delivery of in-service training courses.

Application forms and further particulars are available from the Personnel Officer, Headquarters Office, 1 Hospital Road, Omagh, Co Tyrone, Northern Ireland and should be returned not later than NOON Friday, 8 May 1987.

Please quote the reference number in any correspondence relating to this post.

(14318)

## ADMINISTRATION L.E.A. continued

### WILTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL Education Department

#### SENIOR ASSISTANT EDUCATION OFFICER (Schools)

Salary P O (12-15) £16,011 - £17,160

Applications are invited for this new post from September 1987.

The post will carry particular responsibility for the administration of TVE1 extension and other development projects. There will also be an opportunity to work on a range of other issues involving schools across the county.

Applicants should be graduates with experience of teaching and LEA administration. The ability to develop new ideas and to work with a team of officers and advisers is particularly important.

Application form and further details obtainable from Chief Education Officer (ST/N), County Hall, Trowbridge, Wiltshire, BA14 8JB (Tel: Trowbridge (02214) 3641 Ext. 2480) quoting reference E.87/190. Closing date: 23rd April 1987.

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER

(14385)

### EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

#### SENIOR COUNTY INSPECTOR with special responsibility for English

Soulbury (Burnham HT10) £19,260 - £20,766 p.a.

Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced teachers for the above post which becomes vacant from 1 September 1987.

Generous relocation expenses payable in appropriate cases.

Application form and further details available from (see please) the County Education Officer (P), P.O. Box 47, Threadneedle House, Market Road, Chelmsford, CM1 1LD. Tel: Chelmsford 267222, ext. 2626

Closing date: 24th April 1987

(02286)

### EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

#### Co-Ordinator

for In-Service Education and Training

(Soulbury Group 9)

Salary: £19,185 to £20,697 inclusive.

This is an important newly established post to develop and co-ordinate the Authority's INSET policy and activities across the Education Service including schools, colleges and youth and community. The post-holder will work as part of the advisory team and be accountable to the Chief Inspector of Schools. Applicants should be able to show sound relevant experience of teaching and advisory work.

Application forms and further particulars available from Education Officer, Town Hall, Barking, Essex IG11 7LU (please enclose foolscap s.a.s.).

Closing date: 1st May 1987.

(17108)

### London Borough of

#### BARKING and DAGENHAM

an equal opportunity employer



(An equal opportunity employer)

### EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

## CHIEF INSPECTOR

Salary - Soulbury Group 12 (currently, with OLA, £23,046-£24,495)

This is a new post in an Authority with a successful and expanding tertiary college, a well-developed adult and community college, 11-16 secondary schools which are maintaining or increasing their rolls, and a growing primary school population. The Authority has a TVE1 project which includes within its ambit both the tertiary college and all secondary schools.

The Chief Inspector will lead a team of Inspectors which is in process of being expanded to encourage the development of a well-integrated education service which aims to meet the needs of the whole community.

S/he will organise and direct the work of all Inspectors and advisory teachers and the TVE1 Unit, with particular initial attention to:

- (i) developing and managing an extensive consultative machinery for professional review and up-dating of curriculum across the three main phases of the tertiary system;
- (ii) developing systems for institutional evaluation and teacher appraisal;
- (iii) developing a new pattern of INSET.

The Chief Inspector will be a second tier officer within the Education Department's senior management team.

Applicants should have substantial and varied teaching experience and be able to demonstrate proven success in team leadership.

Forms and further details from the Director of Education, Regal House, London Road, Twickenham, Middlesex TW1 3QB. Applications returnable to him (ref. IW/AH) by no later than Tuesday, 21st April 1987.

(17089)

## Oxfordshire County Council

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Nursery places for children aged 6 months to 5 years may be available at a day nursery in Oxford run by the St. Thomas Day Nursery Association

### EDUCATION DEPARTMENT Careers Service

#### Appointment of Trainee Careers Officer

Salary within the Scale: £5,880-£7,168

Applications are invited from candidates over the age of 22 to be seconded on salary, plus approved expenses, to a one-year course of training commencing in September 1987, leading to the Diploma in Careers Guidance. Preference will be given to individuals who have already obtained a place on a course starting in the Autumn of 1987.

Further details and application forms are obtainable from the Assistant Education Officer (Careers), Education Department, Maclefield House, New Road, Oxford OX1 1NA. (Telephone Oxford 816272).

Completed forms, together with a supporting letter of application should be returned within two weeks of the appearance of this advertisement.

(17121)

## CAMBRIDGESHIRE

An Equal Opportunity Employer



## CHALLENGING OPPORTUNITIES IN EDUCATION

### INSPECTORATE Salaries £22,000

The Inspectorate in Cambridgeshire has recently been restructured and now seeks nine new appointments to complete the team.

Applicants should have commitment, expertise, and enthusiasm for the various aspects of the role — generalist and subject specific — within which they will support the work of the Education Service.

The posts contain four major elements:

1. the generalist or pastoral responsibility for a group of schools;
2. the development of curriculum and staff;
3. subject or curriculum area expertise;
4. evaluation and monitoring.

Applications are now sought in the following curriculum areas for appointment from 1st September 1987.

Humanities (2 posts)  
Modern Languages  
Community Education  
English

Nursery/primary  
Religious Education  
Art & Design  
Home Economics, Social & Health Education

Closing date 24th April 1987.

### COMMUNITY EDUCATION

Following a Review of the Community Education Service and a re-organisation of posts the Authority wishes to appoint:

CAMBRIDGE HQ  
ASSISTANT EDUCATION OFFICER  
(Community Education) — £14,100 — £15,245 p.a.

### PETERBOROUGH

ASSISTANT AREA EDUCATION OFFICER  
Northern Area (Major responsibility — Community Education)  
£12,650 — £13,863 p.a.

COMMUNITY EDUCATION OFFICER  
(Area Development) — Northern Area (2 Posts)  
£11,862 — £12,884 p.a.

Post 1: Peterborough

Post 2: Cambridge

These posts provide opportunities for persons qualified as teachers/youth and community workers to make a significant contribution to new and exciting development in the service and to enter educational administration.

Closing date 30th April 1987.

Further details and application forms for all the above posts available from Mrs. R. Rowlandson, Shire Hall, Castle Hill, Cambridge CB3 0AP.











